Not guilty plea

Carman pleads not guilty to charges he killed his mother in 2016. **NEWS, PAGE 3**

Abortion rights

Republican filibuster blocks Senate effort to codify abortion rights. **NEWS, PAGE 4**

Torres leads Yankees

Gleyber Torres drives in all 5 runs to lead Yankees past Blue Jays, 5-3. **SPORTS, PAGE 1**

Warming trend

Partly sunny and warmer; high of 82. **SPORTS, PAGE 6**

Hartford Courant

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Disbarred lawyer shuns judge's order

Attorney who made antisemitic conspiracy comments fails to show up for court hearing

By Edmund H. Mahony
Hartford Courant

A divorce lawyer who was disbarred for making alleged antisemitic claims about a conspiracy to control the state court system failed to appear in court Wednesday after being found in contempt and being ordered to appear before a judge to account for what she did with tens of thousands of dollars of client funds.

Nickola Cunha, who is being represented by attorney Norm Pattis, did not show up to a hearing scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday before Superior Court Judge Thomas Moukawsher, according to court officials.

The judge issued a capias order that takes effect at 3 p.m. Thursday — meaning she has until 3 p.m. to make an appearance in court. If she doesn't, she'll be taken into custody by court marshals and brought to court, according to court officials.

The judge who disbarred Nickola Cunha had ordered her to appear again in court Wednesday to explain why she had not complied with instructions concerning the closing of her law practice and why she withdrew $30,000 from a client account for her own alleged use after the judge told her not to do so.

"The court concludes that clear and convincing evidence shows that Ms. Cunha was unequivocally ordered not to take her clients' money, knew about the order, and willfully took it anyway," Moukawsher wrote in a decision. "She had a motive to take it too. Shortly after taking the money, she hired an attorney. She certainly needs one."

Cunha was disbarred in January for the maximum, allowable period of five years for persisting in asserting antisemitic claims about a judicial conspiracy. Moukawsher ordered Cunha to pay a $1,000 contempt fine for ignoring his orders. A trustee was appointed to close her law practice and the judicial branch's chief disciplinary officer is looking into what happened to the $30,000 and other client funds that are supposed to be held

Turn to Cunha, Page 3



SEAN FOWLER PHOTOS/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT



MIDDLETOWN

Brush fire battle

Firefighters have been battling brush fires that consumed almost 300 acres of woods and open land Tuesday and Wednesday in Middletown. The first blaze was reported about 1 p.m. Tuesday when a tree came down on eletrical wires off River Road. Live wires on the ground sparked a fire, which gusty winds quickly spread.
Story, Connecticut, Page 1

'Trial wasn't about a Fitbit'

Connie Dabate's family and friends feel sense of justice

By Taylor Hartz
Hartford Courant

Six years, four months and a little more than two weeks passed between the time Connie Dabate, a 39-year-old mother of two, was found dead in her basement and the moment her husband was convicted of killing her.



Richard Dabate

For the past five weeks, a jury of 12 listened to testimony from more than 130 witnesses — detectives, neighbors, parents, house cleaners, a boss, a mistress and a Fitbit expert from New York City — and was presented with more than 600 pieces of evidence in the trial dubbed the "Fitbit murder."

This week, it took them less than three hours in the deliberation room to come up with their verdict: guilty on all counts.

Richard Dabate, Connie Dabate's husband, was led away in handcuffs Tuesday afternoon after the jury found him guilty of murder, tampering with evidence and lying to police. He was taken into custody for the first time in years after a judge increased his bond from $1 million to $5 million.

Prosecutors built a hefty case around Dabate, whom they said staged a bloody home invasion after shooting his wife with a gun he bought behind her back months earlier. The motive, the

Turn to Dabate, Page 2

WAR IN UKRAINE

Ukraine plans first war crimes trial

Russian soldier is accused of killing unarmed civilian

By Elena Becatoros and Jon Gambrell
Associated Press

ZAPORIZHZHIA, Ukraine — Ukraine's top prosecutor disclosed plans Wednesday for the first war crimes trial of a captured Russian soldier, as fighting raged in the east and south and the Kremlin left open the possibility of annexing a corner of the country it seized early in the invasion.

Prosecutor General Iryna Venediktova said her office charged Sgt. Vadin Shyshimarin, 21, in the killing of an unarmed 62-year-old civilian who was gunned down while riding a bicycle in February, four days into the war.

Shyshimarin, who served with a tank unit, was accused of firing through a car window at the man in the northeastern village of Chupakhivka. Venediktova said the soldier could get up to 15 years in prison. She did not say when the trial would

Turn to Ukraine, Page 3



Connecticut state Trooper Lukasz Lipert and former Polish president Lech Walesa. **COURTESY**

State trooper helps former Polish president Walesa with flat tire

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

A Connecticut state trooper and native of Poland got a chance Wednesday to help one of the most famous Poles of all time with a roadside repair.

Trooper Lukasz Lipert was called on to assist former Polish President Lech Walesa with a flat tire on I-84 in Tolland, state police said. Lipert helped ensure safety at the scene while an auto service worker changed the tire on the SUV in which Walesa was a passenger.

Lipert said he spoke to the Nobel Peace Prize winner in Polish about the history of their homeland and the anti-communist movement in which Walesa was a key figure.

"It was definitely a great opportunity to meet the man who had a voice during those times," Lipert, 35, said.

Walesa has been in Connecticut as part of his Ukraine relief campaign. The 78-year-old founder of Poland's once powerful Solidarity movement is touring the U.S. to champion refugees who have been uprooted from

Turn to Walesa, Page 2

Petit joins legislators leaving at the end of this term

After six years in the General Assembly, Rep. William Petit has joined about two dozen state legislators who are leaving when their current terms end. **Connecticut, Page 1**

Opinion.....**News, 8**
Obits .....**News, 10-11**
Lottery.....**News, 2**
Classified.....**News, 9**
Puzzles ..**Connecticut, 9, 11**
Comics **Connecticut, 10-11**

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FROM PAGE ONE

Fired Connecticut health commissioner alleges discrimination by governor

Associated Press

HARTFORD — A former Connecticut health commissioner who was fired in the first weeks of the coronavirus pandemic has filed a lawsuit against the state, accusing the governor of discriminating against her, a Black woman, by elevating several white people to lead the crisis response.

Renee Coleman-Mitchell, who was ousted on May 12, 2020, says in a federal court filing that she was never provided severance pay or consideration for another position as promised by Gov. Ned Lamont, a Democrat. She said she has been unable to find another job because of the damage done to her reputation.

A spokesperson for Lamont's office on Wednesday declined to comment on the lawsuit. On Tuesday, the governor told reporters: "Well, it's a pending legal action. It'll be sorted out. So, I think I should probably leave it at that."

Coleman-Mitchell was among dozens of state and local public health leaders around the U.S. who resigned or were fired in the first months of the COVID-19 outbreak as local governments navigated politics surrounding mask-wearing, lockdowns and infection data.

Lamont did not say publicly why he was replacing Coleman-Mitchell with Deidre Gifford, the commissioner of the state Department of Social Services. At the time, a state official said Lamont removed her for several reasons, including being slow to act on a plan to protect nursing homes from the virus and refusing the previous year to publicly release school-by-school vaccination rates. The official was not authorized to disclose the information and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Coleman-Mitchell said the governor told her that her removal had nothing to do with her job performance, and that he had decided to move in a different direction.

"Governor Lamont's 'different direction' was biased and discriminatory and simply on the basis that he did not prefer to have an older African-American female in the public eye as the individual leading the state in the fight against COVID-19," the lawsuit read.

In the lawsuit, Coleman-Mitchell said she had raised concerns about infections in nursing homes during the first week of March 2020 but her warnings were met with opposition by Lamont and his administration. By firing her, she said, Lamont insinuated she failed in the response to the pandemic while "the thousands of elderly nursing home illnesses and deaths that needlessly occurred as a result of Governor Lamont's failure to act in a timely manner."

The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages.

Walesa

from Page 1

their homes due to Russian attacks. Up to 3.2 million displaced Ukrainians are in Poland, according to the latest estimate.

At first, Lipert said, he thought a fellow trooper was joking when he called for backup at about 11:30 a.m., saying that a former Polish president was in a disabled vehicle.

"What are the odds there's going to be a former Polish president on the side of 84 in Tolland," Lipert said.

But he talked with Walesa on the phone as he made his way to the scene, "and sure enough," Lipert said, "it was him."

Lipert came to the U.S. when he was 18 and said he did not pay much attention to politics as a kid growing up in Poland. But as an adult, he said, he read about the history of his home country, and that was the focus of his conversation with Walesa.

"It was definitely a great experience," Lipert said.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com

Dabate

from Page 1

state said, was the impending birth of his daughter with his secret lover, Sara Ganzer, who was seven months pregnant at the time of the crimes.

Their case relied in part on data from the Fitbit Connie Dabate was wearing on her hip when she died. The data collected from the fitness device — according to State's Attorney Matthew C. Gedansky, who prosecuted the case, and a psychologist and researcher who he called to the stand — showed that Connie Dabate was still moving around at about 10:05 a.m. on the morning of Dec. 23, 2015, a timeline that didn't add up with her husband's story of when she was murdered by an intruder.

The Fitbit expert also told the jury that the mother's last movements were "incidental" movements — the kind you'd expect from someone idling about their home doing chores, not running for their lives.

A spokesperson for Connie Dabate's family said on Tuesday, though, that "the trial wasn't about a Fitbit."

"It was about a cold-blooded, planned murder of Connie Margotta Dabate," said Wayne Rioux, a longtime neighbor and friend of the family. "Connie was a daughter, a sister, an aunt, a cousin, a friend and colleague. Most importantly, she was a loving and devoted mother to her sons."

Richard Dabate, 45, took the stand in his own defense last week and admitted to lying to his wife, his lover, a friend and police to hide his affair, and the seriousness of his relationship with Ganzer. He tried to pin his wife's murder on an intruder he said broke into the couple's Ellington home.



Prosecutors built a hefty case around Richard Dabate, whom they said staged a bloody home invasion after shooting his wife with a gun he bought behind her back months earlier. **COURANT FILE**

He repeatedly told the story of coming home that morning to find a masked man wearing all camouflage in the couple's closet.

The Dabates lived in a large yellow and white house set back at the end of a long driveway on Birch View Drive with their two sons, RJ and Connor, who were 6 and 9 years old when their mother was killed, according to court records and an obituary for Connie Dabate. In December 2015, the weekend before Christmas, the couple shared a romantic getaway to Vermont while Connie's mother babysat their sons.

When they got back from their weekend away, though, Gedansky said that pressure was piling on Dabate. He needed to make a decision between his wife and his lover, the prosecutor said, so he hatched a plan.

Jurors began deliberating Monday afternoon but quickly came back into the courtroom to ask for certain pieces of evidence including Connie Dabate's autopsy report, gunshot residue reports, recordings of testimony about DNA testing and Dabate's statement to police in the hospital the day of the murder.

On Tuesday, they returned to the courtroom and listened to recordings of experts who testified about DNA until they took their lunch break. When they came back from lunch, they said they'd heard enough.

Less than an hour later, they sent a note to the judge saying they'd reached a verdict, bringing the long judicial journey to a close for Connie Dabate's family who filled the courtroom.

Connie Dabate's brother Keith Margotta said Tuesday that if his sister were looking down on them, he thinks she'd be thinking, "It's about time."

The family said that the length of the trial, which was delayed first by Dabate's first defense attorney's illness and death and then by the shuttering of courtrooms during the COVID-19 pandemic, made it a longer road for them, but they were happy with the case prosecutors built against the man they formerly considered a part of their family.

Dabate's defense lawyer Trent LaLima said Tuesday afternoon that they haven't reached the end of the long road. They plan to appeal the conviction.

Dabate was being held in custody at the Hartford Correctional Center, according to Connecticut Department of Correction records. He is scheduled to appear in court next on Sept. 16 at 10 a.m. in Rockville Superior Court.

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LOTTERY
Wednesday, May 11

PLAY3 DAY 5 5 2 **WB:** 0
PLAY4 DAY 3 3 6 9 **WB:** 3

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

TUESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS
PLAY3 NIGHT 9 3 1 **WB:** 3
PLAY4 NIGHT 5 1 9 4 **WB:** 7
CASH 5 2 3 8 16 22
LUCKY FOR LIFE 1 13 18 22 45 **LB:** 7
LOTTO 5 14 22 28 38 42
Zero first-prize winning ticket(s) sold.
MEGA MILLIONS
15 19 20 61 70 **MB:** 9 **MP:** 3
Friday's est. Lotto jackpot: $1.1 million
Friday's est. Mega Millions jackpot: $99 million









FROM PAGE ONE

Nathan Carman shouts 'not guilty' as he enters court

By Lisa Rathke
Associated Press

A 28-year-old man who was rescued from a raft off the coast of New England in 2016 after his boat sank pleaded not guilty Wednesday to charges he killed his mother at sea to inherit the family's estate.

Nathan Carman was arraigned in federal court in Rutland on multiple fraud charges and a first-degree murder charge in the death of Linda Carman. He shouted "not guilty" in the direction of reporters who had asked him on his way into the courthouse whether he killed his mother.

Authorities allege in the indictment unsealed Tuesday that Carman also killed his grandfather, John Chakalos, at his home in Windsor, Connecticut, in 2013 as part of a scheme to obtain money and property from his grandfather's estate, but he was not charged with that killing.

"As a central part of the scheme, Nathan Carman murdered John Chakalos and Linda Carman," the indictment reads.

Carman was found in an inflatable raft eight days after leaving a Rhode Island marina to go fishing with his mother, who was never found. Prosecutors allege Carman altered the boat to make it more likely to sink that day. He has denied doing anything to intentionally make the boat unseaworthy.

Carman, who was arrested Tuesday, faces life in prison if convicted of killing Linda Carman, his mother. His attorney did not comment after the arraignment.

Federal prosecutors said in a court document filed Wednesday he should remain detained because he poses a flight risk and is a danger to the community. They wrote that Carman was treated for mental health issues from when he was a small child until he was 17 years old and has avoided any treatment since then.

"For an individual who would kill his own family members, nothing is off the table," prosecutors wrote. A hearing is scheduled for Monday.

Prosecutors allege the inheritance scheme that has spanned nearly a decade began with Carman buying a rifle in New Hampshire that he used to shoot Chakalos on Dec. 20, 2013, while he slept. He then discarded his computer hard drive and the GPS unit that had been in his truck, prosecutors said.

Police have said Carman was the last person to see his grandfather alive and owned a semi-automatic rifle similar to the one used to kill Chakalos — but the firearm disappeared.

After Chakalos' death, Carman received $550,000 from two bank accounts that his grandfather had set up and that he was the beneficiary of when Chakalos died. He moved from an apartment in Bloomfield, Connecticut, to Vernon, Vermont, in 2014. He was unemployed much of the time and by the fall of 2016, was low on funds, prosecutors said.

In September 2016, Carman arranged to go on a fishing trip with his mother on his boat named the "Chicken Pox."

"Nathan Carman planned to kill his mother on the trip," the indictment reads. "He also planned how he would report the sinking of the 'Chicken Pox' and his mother's disappearance at sea as accidents."



Nathan Carman departs federal court Aug. 21, 2019, in Providence, Rhode Island. **STEVEN SENNE/AP**

Before the trip, Carman altered the boat by removing two forward bulkheads and trim tabs from the transom of the hull, the indictment states.

"After leaving the marina, Nathan Carman killed his mother, Linda Carman, and eventually sank the Chicken Pox," it states.

In 2019, a federal judge in Rhode Island decided that Carman contributed to the sinking of the boat. U.S. District Judge John McConnell issued a written decision in favor of an insurance company that had refused to pay an $85,000 claim to Carman for the loss of his 31-foot fishing boat.

Carmen denied the allegations, telling the Coast Guard that when the boat filled quickly with water, he swam to the life raft and called for his mother but never saw her again.

He was found floating in the raft off the coast of Martha's Vineyard, a Massachusetts island, by the crew of a freighter eight days after the boat was reported missing.

Chakalos, who was a real estate developer, left behind an estate that was worth nearly $29 million, which was to be divided among his four daughters. Carman is in line to get about $7 million of the estate, as his mother's only heir.

Chakalos' three surviving daughters sued Carman in New Hampshire probate court, seeking to bar him from receiving any money from Chakalos' estate. A judge dismissed the case in 2019, saying Chakalos was not a New Hampshire resident. The probate case was refiled in Connecticut, where it remains pending.

William Michael, an attorney for Carman's mother's sisters, said Tuesday the family had no immediate comment.

Cunha

from Page 1

in trust.

"One purpose of the audit is to direct the chief disciplinary counsel — in cooperation with the trustee — to determine if Ms. Cunha stole her client's $30,000. If she did, she will be in a lot more trouble," the judge wrote in his ruling.

In addition to ordering Cunha not to withdraw money for her client trust accounts, Moukawsher ordered her to deliver to a trustee appointed to close her firm detailed information about clients, pending cases and billings as well as a list of all client accounts. She was specifically instructed not to withdraw or transfer client funds.



Moukawsher

"If she hasn't provided the information sought before the hearing, the court will consider other steps to ensure compliance, including possible additional monetary sanctions, incarceration to secure compliance, or both," Moukawsher wrote in a decision.

"Still, the court isn't ready to conclude Ms. Cunha stole her clients' money. The trustee and the chief disciplinary counsel aren't asking the court to do this just yet. Instead, the chief disciplinary counsel requested, and the court orders, an audit of Ms. Cunha's dealing with her clients' funds in general and the $30,000 in particular. The audit is to be completed and a report filed with the court no later than August 1, 2022. The chief disciplinary counsel is authorized in conducting the audit to subpoena any necessary witnesses and documents and to take depositions," he wrote.

A number of lawyers and court officials said at the close of business Tuesday that Cunha had not met the court demands and that the hearing would proceed in Superior Court in Middletown.

Cunha said through her attorney during an earlier court appearance that Moukawsher cannot sanction her because the court lost jurisdiction over her the moment she was disbarred. Moukawsher also said in a written decision she has been inconsistent and "incredible" in explaining whether she understood she was not to withdraw client funds.

She is appealing the disbarment.

In a written decision in January, Moukawsher said he was taking the unusual step of disbarring Cunha because of her behavior in behalf of a client in a bitter and protracted divorce, behavior that the judge said involved "empty and malicious" claims of abuse and antisemitic declarations to win an advantage for her client by "snarling the case into an un-triable mess."

Until Moukawsher's ruling, Cunha, who has offices in Hamden, had practiced law since 1999. The divorce case involved a couple with children that has entered its third year, generated enormous fees for lawyers and various family relation's trial professionals and captured the following of court regulars.

The case was referred to Moukawsher, who is assigned to preside over especially complex and contentious divorces, after Cunha accused the judge presiding over the divorce trial, Gerard I. Adelman, of bias against non-Jews, bias against the disabled and other claims. When Cunha moved to disqualify Adelman, Moukawsher convened a hearing and told her to produce her proof.

According to Moukawsher's decision, which reproduces portions of the transcript of the hearing, Cunha rambled for 30 pages or so. Cunha made claims against Adelman but had not produced anything that, in Moukawsher's view, supported her assertions. Finally, Cunha expressed antisemitic and conspiracy claims, the decision says.

Cunha said she was relying on "the enormous amount of information and evidence that's come to me" about the alleged conspiracy. Pressed by Moukawsher, she said, "when you start looking at the cases and you start looking at the professionals engaged in the cases, it is consistent and it supports that claim." She said, "I have a list of cases ... So it's a vicious circle."

Moukawsher asked her to produce the list that would support her claim. Cunha rummaged through her computer put failed to produce one. A recess was called to allow her to search further. Finally, Cunha acknowledged she had no list.

"There — there is not, Judge," Cunha said.

Cunha's other allegations were dismissed after similar questioning.

Prior to the disbarment, when Moukawsher gave Cunha an opportunity to defend herself, she lashed out at the court.

"I find these proceedings to be intentionally harassing and intimidation and an attempt by Your Honor solely to shut me down for the corruption that I have raised before his Court," she said, according to the record.

"Your Honor has engaged in malfeasance, gross malfeasance, I will not be intimidated. I will remind this court that your so-called historical writing Memorandum of Decision where you touch upon the history that it is, it is a joke and it is pathetic, and you should be ashamed or yourself for subjecting myself to that type of rhetoric. Frankly Judge, I am ashamed to even be sitting before you with the type of conduct that you have engaged in. You have engaged in material misrepresentation; you have lied to the public," the record shows she said.

Courant Reporter Taylor Hartz contributed to this story.



People and their belongings fill a bus Wednesday as they are evacuated near Lyman, Ukraine.
EVGENIY MALOLETKA/AP

Ukraine

from Page 1

start.

Venediktova's office has said it has been investigating more than 10,700 alleged war crimes committed by Russian forces and has identified over 600 suspects.

Many of the alleged atrocities came to light last month after Moscow's forces aborted their bid to capture Kyiv and withdrew from around the capital, exposing mass graves and streets and yards strewn with bodies in towns such as Bucha. Residents told of killings, burnings, rape, torture and dismemberment.

Volodymyr Yavorskyy of the Center for Civil Liberties said the Ukrainian human rights group will be following Shyshimarin's trial to see if it is fair. "It's very difficult to observe all the rules, norms and neutrality of the court proceedings in wartime," he said.

On the economic front, Ukraine shut down one of the pipelines that carry Russian gas across the country to homes and industries in Western Europe, marking the first time since the start of the war that Kyiv disrupted the flow westward of one of Moscow's most lucrative exports.

But the immediate effect is likely to be limited, in part because Russia can divert the gas to another pipeline and because Europe relies on a variety of suppliers.

Meanwhile, a Kremlin-installed politician in the southern Kherson region, site of the first major Ukrainian city to fall in the war, said officials there want Russian President Vladimir Putin to make Kherson a "proper region" of Russia and annex it.

"The city of Kherson is Russia," Kirill Stremousov, deputy head of the Kherson regional administration appointed by Moscow, told Russia's RIA Novosti news agency.

That raised the possibility that the Kremlin would seek to break off another piece of Ukraine as it tries to salvage an invasion gone awry.

Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, which borders the Kherson region, after a disputed referendum in 2014, a move rejected by most of the international community.

Kherson, a Black Sea port of 300,000, provides Crimea with access to fresh water and is seen as gateway to wider Russian control over southern Ukraine.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said it would be "up to the residents of the Kherson region after all to decide whether such an appeal should be made or not."

He said any move to annex territory would have to be evaluated by legal experts to make sure it is "absolutely legitimate, as it was with Crimea."

Ukrainian presidential adviser Mykhailo Podolyak mocked the notion of Kherson's annexation, tweeting: "The invaders may ask to join even Mars or Jupiter. The Ukrainian army will liberate Kherson, no matter what games with words they play."

Inside Kherson, people have taken to the streets to decry the Russian occupation.

But a teacher who gave only her first name, Olga, for fear of Russian retaliation, said such protests are impossible now because Moscow's troops "kidnapped activists and citizens simply for wearing Ukrainian colors or ribbons."

She said "people are scared of talking openly outside their homes" and "everyone walks on the street quickly."

"All people in Kherson are waiting for our troops to come as soon as possible," she added. "Nobody wants to ... join Russia."

On the battlefield, Ukrainian officials said a Russian rocket attack targeted an area around Zaporizhzhia, destroying unspecified infrastructure. There were no immediate reports of casualties. The city has been a refuge for civilians fleeing the siege in the port city of Mariupol.

Russian forces continued to pound the steel plant that is the last bastion of resistance in Mariupol, its defenders said.

In his nightly address Tuesday, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy suggested Ukraine's military is gradually pushing Russian troops away from Kharkiv, the country's second-largest city and a key to Russia's offensive in the Donbas, the eastern industrial region.

Ukraine is also targeting Russian air defenses and resupply vessels on Snake Island in the Black Sea in an effort to disrupt Moscow's efforts to expand its control over the coastline, according to the British Ministry of Defense.

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Dems' Roe defense falls to filibuster

GOP senators block vote on bill to secure access to abortion

By Lisa Mascaro
Associated Press



Vice President Kamala Harris speaks to reporters Wednesday outside the Senate chamber. **ANNA MONEYMAKER/GETTY**

WASHINGTON — The Senate fell far short Wednesday in a rushed effort toward enshrining Roe v. Wade abortion access as federal law, blocked by a Republican filibuster in a blunt display of the nation's partisan divide over the landmark court decision and the limits of legislative action.

The almost party-line tally promises to be the first of several efforts in Congress to preserve the nearly 50-year-old court ruling, which declares a constitutional right to abortion services but is at serious risk of being overturned this summer by a conservative Supreme Court.

President Joe Biden said that Republicans "have chosen to stand in the way of Americans' rights to make the most personal decisions about their own bodies, families and lives." He urged voters to elect more abortion-rights lawmakers in November and pledged in the meantime "to explore the measures and tools at our disposal" to secure rights established in Roe.

His party's slim majority proved unable to overcome the filibuster led by Republicans, who have been working for decades to install conservative Supreme Court justices and end Roe v. Wade. The vote was 51-49 against proceeding, with 60 votes needed to move ahead.

Congress has battled for years over abortion policy, but Wednesday's vote to take up a House-passed bill was given new urgency after the disclosure of a draft Supreme Court opinion to overturn the Roe decision that many had believed to be settled law.

The outcome of the conservative-majority court's actual ruling, expected this summer, is sure to reverberate around the country and on the campaign trail ahead of the fall midterm elections that will determine which party controls Congress.

Security was tight at the Capitol where Vice President Kamala Harris presided, and it has been bolstered across the street at the Supreme Court after protesters turned out in force last week following the leaked draft.

Scores of House Democratic lawmakers marched protest-style to the Senate and briefly watched from the visitor galleries.

Harris can provide a tie-breaking vote in the 50-50 split Senate, but that was beside the point Wednesday. One conservative Democrat, Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, voted with the Republicans, saying he supported keeping Roe v. Wade but believed the current bill was too broad.

Over several days, Democratic senators delivered speeches contending that undoing abortion access would mean great harm, not only for women but for all Americans planning families and futures.

Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto, D-Nev., said that most American women have only known a world where abortion access was guaranteed but could face a future with fewer rights than their mothers or grandmothers.

"That means women will not have the same control over their lives and bodies as men do, and that's wrong," she said in the run-up to Wednesday's vote.

Few Republican senators spoke in favor of ending abortion access, but they embraced the filibuster to block the bill from advancing.

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., an architect of the effort to install conservative justices on the Supreme Court including three during the Trump era has sought to downplay the outcome of any potential changes in federal abortion policy.

"This issue will be dealt with at the state level," McConnell said.

Some other Republicans, including Sen. John Thune of South Dakota, argue that the House-passed bill is more extreme than Roe, and would expand abortion access beyond what is already the law.

About half the states already have approved laws that would further restrict or ban abortions, including some trigger laws that would take effect once the court rules.

Polls show that most Americans want to preserve access to abortion in the earlier stages of pregnancy, but views are more nuanced and mixed when it comes to later-term abortions.

The draft court ruling on a case from Mississippi suggested the majority of conservative justices are prepared to end the federal right to abortion, leaving it to the states to decide.

Wednesday's failure renewed calls to change Senate rules to do away with the high-bar filibuster threshold, at least on this issue.

The two Republican senators who support abortion access Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, who faces reelection in November, and Susan Collins of Maine were also no votes, having proposed their own more tailored approach to counter the Supreme Court's potential action.

Both of the Republican senators, who voted to confirm most of former President Donald Trump's justices, are in talks over alternatives. But Democrats have largely panned the Collins-Murkowski effort as insufficient.

Five years ago, it was McConnell who changed Senate rules to selectively do away with the filibuster to confirm Trump's justices after blocking President Barack Obama's choice of Merrick Garland to fill a Supreme Court vacancy at the start of the 2016 presidential campaign, leaving the seat open for Trump to fill after he was elected.

Fast Senate OK expected for $40B Ukraine aid bill

Package includes military, economic, regional assistance

By Alan Fram
Associated Press



Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said he thinks there will be "substantial support" for the House-passed $40 billion Ukraine aid package. **ANNA MONEYMAKER/GETTY**

WASHINGTON — Final congressional approval of a $40 billion Ukraine aid bill seems certain within days as top Senate Republicans said Wednesday they expect strong GOP backing for the House-passed measure, signaling a bipartisan, heightened U.S. commitment to helping thwart the bloody Russian invasion.

"I think there'll be substantial support," Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said about the legislation, which cleared the House late Tuesday by a 368-57 margin. "We're going to try to process it as soon as possible."

No. 2 Senate GOP leader John Thune of South Dakota predicted "a big vote over here" for the bill, which he and others suggested might come Thursday but could spill into next week. Thune said some Republicans would vote against it and procedural tactics by opponents to slow it were possible, but added, "I think because there's so much forward momentum behind doing this and doing it in a timely way that it I don't think we'll have anybody who will hold it up."

It's taken just two weeks for lawmakers to receive President Joe Biden's smaller, $33 billion package, enlarge it and move it to the brink of passage — lightning speed for Congress. That reflects a bipartisan consensus that Ukraine's outnumbered forces need additional Western help as soon as possible.

"Act quickly we must," said Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y. "I will make sure this is a priority for the Senate. We have a moral obligation to stand with our friends in Ukraine."

The new legislation would bring American support for the effort to nearly $54 billion, including the $13.6 billion Congress enacted in March. That's about $6 billion more than the U.S. spent on all its foreign and military aid in 2019, according to a January report by the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service, which studies issues for lawmakers.

Washington has become increasingly assertive about its goals and its willingness to help Ukraine with more sophisticated weapons. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said recently the U.S. wants a "weakened" Russia that can't quickly restore its capability to attack other countries, and reports have emerged about Ukrainians employing U.S. intelligence information in order to kill Russian generals and sink the Russian missile cruiser Moskva.

A senior Russian official said Wednesday in Moscow that the assistance package was part of Washington's proxy war against Russia. Dmitry Medvedev, deputy head of Russia's Security Council and former president, said on a messaging app that the aid was driven by a desire to "inflict a heavy defeat on our country, restrict its economic development and political influence in the world."

The measure sailed to House passage backed by every voting Democrat, while around 1 in 4 Republicans opposed it. It would provide $7 billion more than Biden's request from April, dividing the increase evenly between defense and humanitarian programs.

The bill would give Ukraine military and economic assistance, help regional allies, replenish weapons the Pentagon has shipped overseas and provide $5 billion to address global food shortages caused by the war's crippling of Ukraine's normally robust production of many crops.

"As Putin desperately accelerates his campaign of horror and brutality in Ukraine, time is of the essence," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

Some Republicans used the election-season debate to accuse Biden of being unclear about his goals.

"Honestly, do we not deserve a plan?" said Rep. Michael Burgess, R-Texas. He said he agrees that Western countries must help Ukraine stand up to Russia but added, "Does the administration not need to come to us with where we are going with this?"

Oksana Markarova, Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S., attended Tuesday's separate Democratic and Republican Senate lunches and expressed gratitude for the support they've received. Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., said Markarova told them her country has depleted its stockpiles of Soviet-era weapons and said continued NATO support is vital.

The new measure includes $6 billion to arm and train Ukrainian forces, $8.7 billion to restore American stores of weapons shipped to Ukraine and $3.9 billion for U.S. forces deployed to the area.

Also included is $8.8 billion in economic support for Ukraine, $4 billion to help Ukraine and allies finance arms and equipment purchases and $900 million for housing, education and other help for Ukrainian refugees in the U.S.

CDC: Rising overdose deaths hit record with nearly 108,000 last year

By Noah Weiland and Margot Sanger-Katz
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — After a catastrophic increase in 2020, deaths from drug overdoses rose again to record-breaking levels in 2021, nearing 108,000, the result of an ever-worsening fentanyl crisis, according to preliminary data published Wednesday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The increase of nearly 15% followed a much steeper rise of almost 30% in 2020, an unrelenting crisis that has consumed federal and state drug policy officials. Since the 1970s, the number of drug overdose deaths has increased every year except 2018.

A growing share of deaths continues to come from overdoses involving fentanyl, a class of potent synthetic opioids that are often mixed with other drugs, and methamphetamine, a synthetic stimulant.

State health officials battling an influx of both drugs said many of the deaths appeared to be the result of combining the two.

Drug overdoses, which long ago surged above the country's peak deaths from AIDS, car crashes and guns, killed about one-quarter as many Americans last year as COVID-19.

Deaths involving synthetic opioids — largely fentanyl — rose to 71,000 from 58,000, while those associated with stimulants like methamphetamine, which has grown cheaper and more lethal in recent years, increased to 33,000 from 25,000. Because fentanyl is a white powder, it can be easily combined with other drugs, including opioids like heroin, and stimulants like meth and cocaine, and can be stamped into counterfeit pills for anti-anxiety drugs like Xanax. Such mixtures can prove lethal if drug users are unaware they are taking fentanyl or are unsure of the dose.

Deaths from both classes of drugs have been rising in recent years.

But there is growing evidence that mixing stimulants and opioids — into combinations known as "speedballs" and "goofballs" — is becoming more common too.

Dan Ciccarone, a professor of family and community medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, who studies drug markets, has just begun a multiyear study of the combination of opioids and meth.

"We've never seen a powerful opioid such as fentanyl being mixed with such a potent methamphetamine," he said.

The numbers released Wednesday are considered provisional, and may change as the government reviews more death records. But they showed that a crisis that escalated sharply during the first year of the pandemic does not appear to be letting up.

WORLD & NATION

Asking the public to help fund a war

How online appeals provide the weapons that Ukraine needs

By Jane Arraf
The New York Times



A technician modifies a racing drone at a workshop supporting the Ukrainian military on April 19 in western Ukraine. **FINBARR O'REILLY/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

In a workshop in western Ukraine, a technician adjusted a metal bracket that had been attached to a racing drone so that it could carry a grenade, turning an aircraft sold in hobby stores into a lethal weapon.

Standing nearby were two American entrepreneurs, who had arrived bearing gifts of a dozen other drones, a small installment in what has becoming a torrent of military aid to Ukraine. But this is not part of the state-sponsored arms shipments being raced into Ukraine to help the country fight a more powerful Russian army in the east.

Instead, the drones are part of a multifaceted, multimillion-dollar crowdfunding campaign that is producing millions of dollars in donations, as well as a bounty of smaller weapons and other military equipment for the Ukrainian military. To drive donations, Ukrainian officials and private companies are making direct online appeals to sympathetic foreign citizens, even as they continue to press governments for heavier weaponry, too.

One of the American entrepreneurs, Chad Kapper, said his trip began with a call to a Ukrainian racing drone friend.

"I said 'Listen, what do you guys need if you need anything? You know, can we supply parts or whatever?' " recalled Kapper, the founder of a racing drone company. "And he said, 'yes, whatever you can do.' "

For many of the donors involved, this conflict has unusual moral clarity.

"We made a mistake with Iraq, just like we made a mistake with Vietnam. We got ourselves into places we shouldn't have been," said the other American entrepreneur who brought the drones, a Tennessee businessman who asked to remain anonymous. "These people are not asking us to show up, they're just asking for our support."

The online campaign has tapped into widespread Western sympathy and produced meaningful donations for the country's war effort. Included in the donations are dual-use items such as the hobby drones; military equipment such as night vision scopes; body armor, rifles and ammunition; and free lobbying services by U.S. firms.

The biggest campaign, a social media appeal for donations by the Ukrainian Embassy in Prague, raised almost $30 million from 100,000 donors less than three weeks after it was launched, including donations from around the world, according to Czech officials.

"We call on all to financially support the fundraiser for immediate assistance in procurement of military equipment for the Ukrainian army and citizen self-defense units," the embassy said in February on its Facebook Page.

The Czech government, which also benefits from sales of its own weapons, said it would provide fast-track approval for the purchases.

With any crowdfunding campaign, there are concerns about swindlers, and Ukraine struggled with corruption before the war. But, as yet, there have been no reports of impropriety in the online efforts to bring in more weapons.

In perhaps the most audacious appeal, a Ukrainian company last month launched a government-approved appeal to crowdfund donations to buy a fighter jet.

"It will help me to protect my sky filled with Russian planes," a grizzled Ukrainian fighter pilot appealed in English.

The website explained that a MiG-29 or Su fighter jet could be obtained from one of several countries for much less than the $20 million cost of a new one.

A spokesperson for the company said a week after the campaign began that they had raised about $140,000 and acknowledged the appeal was aimed at millionaires.

"I think it's hard to believe that he could buy a fighter plane, that they could use it purposefully and get, you know, the right people in the right training," said Simon Schlegel, senior Ukraine analyst for the Crisis Group think tank. "I think this is really something that is probably more of a marketing ploy."

Stephen Flanagan, a senior political scientist at Rand Corp. who has served as a director of National Security Agency defense policy, said American public engagement in the war has put pressure on the U.S. government to do more for Ukraine and "has certainly broken down some of the initial hesitancy" by the U.S. government to provide lethal support.

While sending weapons to Ukraine requires U.S. export licenses, the Commerce Department in March said it was speeding approvals for the export of guns and ammunition being sent by Americans. Donations of dual-use items face few obstacles.

Kapper's hobby drones — known as First Person View for the images streamed live to a pilot's goggles, are at the opposite end of the spectrum from fighter planes. But they seem to fill a gap while Ukraine waits for more supplies of military-grade drones.

In addition to carrying grenades, the drones, which reach speeds of up to 70 mph, are used by Ukrainian forces for forward observation of Russian units, artillery targeting and locating people in destroyed buildings or forests by using infrared cameras.

Many of the hobby drones, costing $1,000 and up, have a short life.

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WORLD & NATION

‘I can’t believe he isn’t a danger’

Man committed in 2012 after slayings turns up free in SC

By Jeffrey Collins
Associated Press



The families of two sisters killed in 2010 in Kingstree, S.C., stand by their attorney Lori Murray, far left. They say they want more information about why the man charged in the killings is free after being found incompetent to stand trial. **JEFFREY COLLINS/AP**

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The last thing the family of two sisters slain in a tiny South Carolina town had heard about the man who confessed to killing them was that he was headed to a mental hospital in 2012 to be treated for schizophrenia so he could later be tried for murder.

For 10 years, they heard nothing.

Then, a few months ago, friends started to call a son of one of the women with news that they had seen Joseph Jermaine Brand around Kingstree, family attorney Lori Murray said.

Darren Tisdale, a son of the other sister and mayor of the town of 3,100, then began searching for Brand, spotting him just a couple of miles from where police said he confessed to shooting the two women in the head after breaking into their home in October 2010. Tisdale called prosecutors but got no answers.

“He executed two elderly women,” Murray said. “I can’t believe he isn’t a danger to the whole town just out walking around.”

Murray and the families of Naomi Johnson, 65, and her 74-year-old sister Thelma Haddock, gave the sparse court records they could find and other information to The Associated Press ahead of a news conference. Then they asked reporters for help.

“We need closure. I don’t know about you, but yesterday there was a big hole in my heart when I don’t have my mama on Mother’s Day,” Darren Tisdale said.

At the courthouse, a clerk said there was no record of Brand’s arrest or indictments for two counts of murder, armed robbery, first-degree burglary and a weapons charge. The records could not be found online either, although there were some court records still available in a file where the arrest warrants were kept. Other public records show Brand, 43, registered to vote from an assisted living home near Columbia in 2016. At one point, he also had a Facebook page.

That’s the only tangible piece of evidence about where Brand was until he showed up in Kingstree again. No one has given the family any explanation for why his charges just disappeared.

A judge’s order in 2012 said if Brand’s mental competency was restored, he was to be brought back to Williamsburg County and held without bond for his trial. Under the law, a prosecutor could seek 30 years to life in prison for Brand, with the possibility of a death penalty trial.

Prosecutors have promised to reinstate the charges and said they will ask a grand jury to indict Brand again at the end of the month, Murray said. Solicitor Chip Finney didn’t return a phone message or email from the AP. Neither did the assistant prosecutor who signed off on dropping the charges because of the competency problem or Brand’s public defender at the time.

A woman in Kingstree identifying herself as Brand’s grandmother hung up on an AP reporter this week. No one responded to a message left at a telephone number listed for Brand’s mother.

Members of the sisters’ family said they had faith in the system, even when a call to Finney to check on the case in 2018 went unanswered. That was until they saw Brand walking free.

“It has been very hard on the whole family having to relive this event all over again,” the family said in a statement issued through their attorney. “We want justice for our mothers. We want closure for our families, we want Joseph Brand to pay for his crimes and we want answers as to how and why he was released without prosecution.”

Brand lived a few doors down from Johnson and Haddock in 2010. He had moved to Kingstree to live with his father after a stint in a Nevada prison on charges of robbery, drugs and firing a gun out of a vehicle, according to legal records.

Brand came to the sisters’ house and asked to spread pine straw for money. When they refused, Brand barged into the home, wrested a gun away from one of the sisters and shot them several times, including in the head, Williamsburg County deputies said.

Brand’s father found him walking aimlessly in the sisters’ front yard, investigators said. The father saw their door was open and poked his head in to apologize. That’s when he discovered the bodies.

Brand confessed to the killings, according to arrest warrants. But the records show that his mental problems kept him from being able to assist his attorney, prompting a judge to order a psychiatric evaluation. A psychiatrist’s report stated that Brand had schizophrenia and his thinking was completely disorganized. The report indicated that Brand refused to take his medicine and that if he did take it, his competency could be restored.

When asked his age after his arrest, Brand responded, “Seventy-nine in Islam years.” Then he said he was 34. One of the two psychiatrists who examined him corrected him, saying court records listed him as being 33. “And a half!” Brand yelled back, according to the report on his mental state.

When asked how he hoped his case would turn out, Brand, who once lived in Reno, Nevada, said he wanted “to return back to the biggest little city.”

“I want to return back to life as a rock star,” he said, according to the report.

Brand was first sent for temporary psychiatric treatment, but remained incompetent to stand trial, according to Circuit Judge Clifton Newman, who in November 2012 ordered him to be confined until he was better.

That’s where the paperwork trail ends, aside from the record of his registering to vote from the assisted living home in Blythewood in 2016. No one quite knows how Brand ended up back in Kingstree last year.

Murray said even though the solicitor has promised to bring the case before a grand jury, she is concerned about whether that will happen because it isn’t clear whether Brand was declared mentally competent. She said she still can’t get answers from Finney’s office.

“Mr. Brand is walking around as free as a jaybird,” Murray said.

State mental health officials said privacy laws prevent them from releasing any details of Brand’s treatment. But in a statement Monday, the Department of Mental Health said patients charged with crimes who need long-term care are committed by a probate judge and both that judge and prosecutors are informed when the patient no longer needs involuntary treatment.

Finney’s office told the family that investigators have been keeping an eye on Brand since they realized he was back in Kingstree, but Murray said that is little comfort.

“He’s still out there,” Murray said. “And I think if there wasn’t any problem with the case, they could have brought him back in.”



Protesters hold photos of journalist Shireen Abu Akleh as they confront Israeli border officers in Haifa. She was killed while covering a raid in the occupied West Bank. **ARIEL SCHALIT/AP**

Al Jazeera reporter covering Israeli army raid shot, killed

By Josef Federman and Fares Akram
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Veteran Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, one of the satellite channel’s best-known reporters, was shot and killed Wednesday while covering an Israeli military raid in the occupied West Bank. The broadcaster and two reporters who were with her blamed Israeli forces.

Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz promised an investigation and said he was in touch with U.S. and Palestinian officials. The Israeli military initially suggested that Abu Akleh might have been killed by stray fire from Palestinians, but Gantz was more cautious Wednesday.

“We are trying to figure out exactly what happened,” he said. “I don’t have final conclusions.”

He said Israel asked the Palestinian medical team that performed a preliminary autopsy to hand over the fatal bullet for further examination. The head of the Palestinian forensics institute, Rayan al-Ali, said earlier Wednesday that the bullet was deformed, and he could not determine who fired it.

Abu Akleh’s death could draw new scrutiny of Israel’s military justice system, which is being examined as part of a war crimes probe conducted by the International Criminal Court. It also threatened to further strain often rocky relations between the army and the international media.

Abu Akleh, 51, was a respected and familiar face in the Middle East, known for her coverage on Al Jazeera Arabic of the harsh realities of Israel’s open-ended military occupation of the Palestinians, now in its 55th year. She was widely recognized in the West Bank and was also a U.S. citizen.

Her death reverberated across the region. There was also an outpouring of grief in the West Bank.

In Ramallah, the seat of the Palestinian autonomy government, Abu Akleh’s body, draped in a Palestinian flag and covered by a wreath of flowers, was carried through downtown streets. Hundreds chanted, “with our spirit, with our blood, we will redeem you, Shireen.”

On Thursday, a procession was to take the body for burial in Jerusalem, where Abu Akleh was born.

Abu Akleh was killed by a shot to the head while on the outskirts of the Jenin refugee camp in the northern West Bank, known as a bastion of militants. Israel has conducted near-daily raids in Jenin in recent weeks following a series of deadly attacks inside Israel carried out by militants.

Gantz said Israeli forces came under attack by indiscriminate fire by Palestinian militants from several directions.

Gantz described the situation as chaotic.

“I am very sorry for what happened,” he told reporters.

Palestinian journalists who were with Abu Akleh at the time said they made their presence known to Israeli soldiers, and that they did not see militants in the area.

Abu Akleh’s producer, journalist Ali Samoudi, was hospitalized in stable condition after being shot in the back. He said any suggestion they were shot by militants was a “lie.”

Study: Over 500 died while at Native American schools

By Felicia Fonseca
Associated Press



A makeshift memorial for dozens of Indigenous children who died while attending a boarding school is displayed in Albuquerque, N.M. **SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN/AP 2021**

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — A first-of-its-kind federal study of Native American boarding schools that for over a century sought to assimilate Indigenous children into white society has identified more than 500 student deaths at the institutions, but officials say that figure could grow exponentially as research continues.

The Interior Department report released Wednesday expands to more than 400 the number of schools that were known to have operated across the U.S. for 150 years, starting in the early 19th century and coinciding with the removal of many tribes from their ancestral lands. It identified the deaths in records for about 20 schools.

The dark history of Native American boarding schools — where children were forced from their families, prohibited from speaking their languages and often abused — has been felt deeply across Indian Country and through generations.

Many children never returned home, and the Interior Department said that with further investigation the number of known student deaths could climb to the thousands or tens of thousands. Causes included illness, accidental injuries and abuse, officials say.

“Each of those children is a missing family member, a person who was not able to live out their purpose on this Earth because they lost their lives as part of this terrible system,” said Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, whose paternal grandparents were sent to boarding school for several years as kids.

The agency is in the process of poring through thousands of boxes containing more than 98 million pages of records, with help from many Indigenous people who have had to work through their own trauma and pain. Accounting for the number of deaths will be difficult because records weren’t always kept.

A second volume of the report will cover burial sites as well as the federal government’s financial investment in the schools and the impacts of the boarding schools on Indigenous communities, the Interior Department said. It has so far identified at least 53 burial sites at or near boarding schools, not all of which have marked graves.

Tribal leaders have pressed the agency to ensure that any children’s remains that are found are properly cared for and delivered back to their tribes, if desired. The burial sites’ locations will not be released publicly to prevent them from being disturbed, said Bryan Newland, the Interior Department’s assistant secretary for Indian Affairs.

Haaland choked back tears Wednesday as she described how the boarding school era perpetuated poverty, mental health disorders, substance abuse and premature deaths in Indigenous communities.

“Recognizing the impacts of the federal Indian boarding school system cannot just be a historical reckoning,” she said. “We must also chart a path forward to deal with these legacy issues.”

Haaland, who is Laguna, announced an initiative last June to investigate the troubled legacy of boarding schools and uncover the truth about the government’s role in them. The 408 schools her agency identified operated in 37 states or territories, many of them in Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

The Interior Department acknowledged the number of schools identified could change as more data is gathered.

The U.S. government ran some of the boarding schools.

Catholic, Protestant and other churches operated others with federal funding, backed by U.S. laws and policies to “civilize” Native Americans. The federal government still oversees more than 180 schools in nearly two dozen states that serve Native Americans, but the schools’ missions are vastly different from the past.

The Interior Department report was prompted by the discovery of hundreds of unmarked graves at former residential school sites in Canada.

WORLD & NATION



A Sri Lankan family examines the wreckage of buses burnt in clashes in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on Wednesday. Sri Lanka's defense ministry ordered security forces on Tuesday to shoot anyone causing injury to people or property in order to contain widespread arson and mob violence as the country deals with a political crisis that has spilled onto the streets.
ERANGA JAYAWARDENA/AP

NEWS BRIEFING

NY judge says Trump must meet conditions, pay $110K to lift order

From news services

A New York judge said Wednesday he will lift Donald Trump's contempt of court order if the former president meets conditions including paying $110,000 in fines he's racked up for being slow to respond to a civil subpoena issued by the state's attorney general.

Judge Arthur Engoron said he will lift his finding of contempt if Trump submits additional paperwork by May 20 detailing efforts to search for the subpoenaed records and explaining his and his company's document retention policies.

Engoron found Trump in contempt on April 25 and fined him $10,000 per day for not complying with New York Attorney General Letitia James' subpoena, issued as part of a long-running investigation into Trump's business practices.

James, a Democrat, has said her three-year investigation has uncovered evidence that the former president's company misstated the value of assets like skyscrapers and golf courses on financial statements for over a decade.

Trump has denied the allegations, calling James' investigation "racist" and a "witch hunt." James is Black.

Trump's lawyers contend James is using her civil investigation to gain access to information that could then be used against the Republican former president in a parallel criminal investigation being conducted by the Manhattan District Attorney, Alvin Bragg, also a Democrat.

The legal battle between James and Trump was also playing out Wednesday before a midlevel state appeals court, which was hearing arguments in a related subpoena matter: Trump's appeal of the judge's Feb. 17 ruling requiring him to answer questions under oath in the investigation. Trump wants to avoid having to speak with the investigators.

In a statement Wednesday, James praised Engoron's handling of the contempt allegation.

"For years, Mr. Trump and the Trump Organization have tried to thwart our lawful investigation, but today's decision makes clear that no one can evade accountability," James said.

Engoron ordered Trump to pay $110,000 because that is the total amount of fines he accrued through May 6, when Trump's lawyers submitted 66 pages of court documents detailing the efforts by him and his lawyers to locate the subpoenaed records.

Trump nod fails in Nebraska: Republican voters in Nebraska picked Jim Pillen as their nominee for governor, siding with the University of Nebraska regent backed by the state's outgoing governor over a rival supported by former President Donald Trump and accused of groping multiple women.

Pillen, a hog farm owner and veterinarian, defeated eight challengers, including Charles Herbster, a businessman who faced groping allegations late in the campaign, and Brett Lindstrom, a state senator and Omaha financial adviser who was generally viewed as a more moderate choice.

"We live in the greatest place on the planet, right here in Nebraska," Pillen said in a victory speech late Tuesday.

While Trump-endorsed candidates won primary races in West Virginia for the U.S. House on Tuesday, the statewide loss in Nebraska was a setback for Trump. He has issued hundreds of endorsements and staged his signature campaign-style rallies in support of his preferred candidates, including Herbster, all in an effort to bend the GOP in his direction ahead of another possible presidential run in 2024.

Internet troll to face trial: A federal judge scheduled a trial next year for a far-right internet troll after the man, known to his social media followers as "Baked Alaska," balked at pleading guilty on Wednesday to a criminal charge stemming from the U.S. Capitol riot.

U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan refused to accept a guilty plea by Anthime Gionet after he professed his innocence at the start of what was scheduled to be a plea agreement hearing. Instead, the judge set a March 2023 trial date for Gionet, who is charged with a misdemeanor count of parading, demonstrating or picketing inside a Capitol building.

"If he wants a trial, he'll get a fair trial," Sullivan said.

After privately conferring with Gionet's lawyers, Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Aloi said prosecutors would leave the plea offer open for 60 days. The judge scheduled a July 22 status hearing for the case.

Hong Kong arrests: Hong Kong authorities arrested a Roman Catholic cardinal, a singer and at least two others on Wednesday on suspicion of colluding with foreign forces to endanger China's national security, reports said.

Cardinal Joseph Zen, singer-actress Denise Ho, lawyer Margaret Ng and scholar Hui Po-keung were detained by Hong Kong's National Security Police, the U.K.-based human rights group Hong Kong Watch said.

The arrests were apparently related to their roles as trustees of the 612 Humanitarian Relief Fund, which provided legal aid to people who took part in 2019 pro-democracy protests that were quashed by security forces, the group said.

China blasts WHO remarks: China on Wednesday defended sticking to its strict "zero-COVID" approach, calling critical remarks from the head of the World Health Organization "irresponsible."

The response from the Foreign Ministry came after WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said he had been discussing with Chinese experts the need for a different approach in light of new knowledge about the virus.

"When we talk about the 'zero-COVID,' we don't think that it's sustainable, considering the behavior of the virus now and what we anticipate in the future," Tedros said.

Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said at a daily briefing Wednesday, "We hope that relevant people can view China's policy of epidemic prevention and control objectively and rationally, get more knowledge about the facts and refrain from making irresponsible remarks."

Thailand offers free pot: Thailand's public health minister, who has spearheaded the country's drive to decriminalize cannabis, says the government will distribute 1 million of the plants for free when most legal restrictions on production and possession of the drug are lifted next month.

Public Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul signed a measure in February officially dropping cannabis from a list of controlled drugs. Closely regulated use of cannabis was legalized in 2018, with several restrictions gradually eased since then.

Thai officials hope that a major new cannabis industry will blossom, not only generating hundreds of millions of dollars directly each year, but also attracting foreign tourists, who have only recently begun returning in large numbers after being largely absent during the coronavirus pandemic.

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OPINION

Nuclear strike reaction not what you would expect

By Tyler Cowen
Bloomberg Opinion

What if Russia used a tactical nuclear weapon in Ukraine? There has been plenty of speculation as to whether this might happen, or how we should limit the chance that it does. But less has been said about how to react should Vladimir Putin decide to launch a nuclear strike.

I'm not talking about major nuclear war, when those questions might be moot. Instead consider that the Russians deploy a tactical nuke, the Western coalition splinters due to fear of further strikes and Russia keeps part of Ukraine as Putin claims a daring victory. The battle lines ossify. Putin's likely rhetoric notwithstanding, it would fall somewhere between a Russian win and a Russian loss.

What does that world look like, and how should we prepare for it?

Until recently, my view was that any actual use of a nuclear weapon, no matter the scale, would dramatically change everything. Nuclear use would no longer be considered taboo, and the world would enter a state of collective shock and trauma. Other countries around the world would start frantically preparing for war, or the possibility of war.

But recent events have nudged me away from that viewpoint. For instance, I have seen a pandemic that arguably has caused about 15 million deaths worldwide, yet many countries, including the U.S. haven't made major changes in their pandemic preparation policies. That tells me we are more able to respond to a major catastrophe with collective numbness than I would have thought possible.

I also have seen Trumpian politics operate through the social media cycle. Former President Donald Trump did and said outrageous things on a regular basis and even if you agree with some of them, the relevant point is that his opponents sincerely found them outrageous. Yet the rapidity of the social media news cycle meant that most of those actions failed to stick as major failings. Each outrage would be followed by another that would blot out the memory of the preceding one. The notion of "Trump as villain" became increasingly salient, but the details of Trumpian provocations mattered less and less.

Might the detonation of a tactical nuclear weapon follow a similar pattern? Everyone would opine on it on Twitter for a few weeks before moving on to the next terrible event. "Putin as villain" would become all the more entrenched, but dropping a tactical nuclear weapon probably wouldn't be the last bad thing he would do.

To cite the terminology of venture capitalist Marc Andreessen, the tactical nuclear weapon might stay "the Current Thing" for a relatively short period of time.

Maybe the potency of the nuclear concept, and its instantiation in the actual slaughter of innocents, would create more long-lasting trauma than this, but I am no longer sure.

We don't know how many people such a weapon would exterminate, but it's quite possible that it would kill only a small fraction of the number that have died in the war overall. Russia could either use a small nuke or avoid aiming it at a densely populated area. And it already is the case that Roe v. Wade debates are pushing the Ukraine war out of the forefront of our consciousness, at least in the U.S.

The nuclear strike probably would have foreign policy consequences across the broader world. More countries might seek to acquire nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction. Those events could become the new outrages, subsuming Putin's tactical nuke deployment in a broader wave of condemnation.

The administration of President Joe Biden faces options, including in the realm of communications. One is to let this process operate and allow the world not to freak out so much about the tactical nuclear deployment, which might end up being another event in a long and bloody war. Many people will feel, perhaps correctly, that the same simply cannot happen to them. Even if you think we ought to instead punish Putin severely, this may not be possible if the NATO coalition has fractured out of fear.

The downside is we would be normalizing nuclear weapons use while encouraging Putin to continue in his depredations.

The alternative is to speak repeatedly about Russia's nuclear outrage and to keep the attention of the world focused on it. The risk in doing so is that we would elevate Putin's rebellion against Western norms and raise his supposedly heroic profile among those who support him. If you talk about a tyrant but don't punish him, he may end up all the stronger.

What if they gave a nuclear war and no one came? Or at least no one squawked too loudly? We should give this matter some thought.

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Trying to predict post-Roe politics



Jonah Goldberg

The late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was a passionate advocate for abortion rights, but she was also one of Roe v. Wade's most effective critics.

"My criticism of Roe is that it seemed to have stopped the momentum on the side of change," she said, explaining that abortion rights were gaining ground when Roe froze the democratic process in place and gave opponents a poorly reasoned decision to focus on.

If the Supreme Court actually overturns Roe along the lines of a leaked draft opinion — still a big "if" — the issue will move back to the democratic process, fought out by elected politicians.

But because of Roe's harmful effect, that process won't look anything like the politics of 50 years ago.

Roe strengthened the movement against abortion. Previously, the issue divided the parties internally. In 1972, 59% of Democratic delegates voted down an abortion rights plank at their convention. George H.W. Bush's father, Republican Sen. Prescott Bush, was the treasurer of Planned Parenthood. In 1967, California Gov. Ronald Reagan liberalized abortion laws. By 1976, he was apologizing for his mistake.

In the decades since, positions have hardened and the parties have sorted almost completely on the issue.

That alone doesn't necessarily mean that reversing Roe won't be the political boon to Democrats, which some might think it will be. But there's ample reason for skepticism.

As Sarah Isgur recently wrote in Politico, Democrats in recent years have failed to make abortion rights a tool for turnout. Last year, a Texas law that severely restricted abortion by allowing private individuals to sue providers didn't galvanize Democrats the way politicians such as Terry McAuliffe hoped in his failed bid in the race for Virginia governor (in part because Glenn Youngkin, the Republican winner, adroitly said he wouldn't have signed the Texas bill).

More broadly, the voters most passionately invested in maintaining maximal abortion rights are already among the Democrats' most reliable voters. For a real electoral backlash to work, Democrats need to pull in new voters who might otherwise not vote for them. A CNN poll conducted after the leaked draft ruling showed the GOP advantage on the generic ballot increased six points over the most recent one before the leak. That's not dispositive, but it hardly points to an instant tsunami in favor of politicians supportive of abortion rights.



Activists demonstrate Tuesday in front of the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington. **ANNA MONEYMAKER/GETTY**

While the actual overturning of Roe alone may not yield the backlash Democrats hope for, it's far more plausible that Republicans, liberated from Roe, will do something to spark one against their party.

For instance, a Republican effort to impose a federal ban on abortions after, say, six weeks seems inevitable (and quite hypocritical for many who spent years insisting that abortion should be a state issue). A federal ban would almost certainly fail — the last GOP-controlled Congress didn't have the votes for a 20-week limit in 2018 or 2020 and that was when the Republicans knew it was a "free" symbolic effort without any chance of passage.

Various red states are poised to impose bans or near bans on abortion just as other blue states are likely to codify unfettered access to abortion. If you live in a state such as California, New York or Oregon, the leaked draft ruling would not restrict abortion access at all.

The reason political predictions are so hard is that neither party's official position reflects where most voters are. Only 23% of Americans believe abortion should be legal under any circumstances while only 21% think it should be illegal under all circumstances. Everyone else is somewhere in the middle, largely favoring first trimester abortions and more restrictions after that. Bill Clinton's formulation of "safe, legal and rare" captures where most Americans are — and always have been.

As a practical matter, the maximalists on both sides represent the respective bases of the parties. The question now is, how long will that last? If the court sends abortion back to the political arena, absolutism will no longer be an easy safe harbor for politicians, particularly ones with national ambitions. A lot of Democrats who favor abortion rights and Republicans who oppose abortion are almost certainly more moderate than the hard party line they've adopted out of expedience.

It will take a long time to unwind the polarization caused by Roe and the result will not please the most committed on either side. The next few years will probably be chaotic or worse, as the parties figure out how to keep their bases happy in a post-Roe world where politicians will be held to account for their positions on abortion. The only way out is through.

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Amid Paxlovid's success, US doing too little to monitor use of drug

By Lisa Jarvis
Bloomberg Opinion

Paxlovid, Pfizer's antiviral treatment for COVID-19, is turning out to be one of the most successful new drugs in pharma history.

Prescriptions have increased tenfold since February, and the five-day pill pack accounts for nearly 90% of the COVID-19 oral-antiviral market. Based on committed contracts from governments around the world, Pfizer said this month that sales of the drug will reach $22 billion this year.

Joe Biden's administration has made Paxlovid a pillar in its plan to return the U.S. to normal life. The government's test-to-treat program is intended to put the pills into the hands of every American who tests positive for COVID-19.

Yet somehow, there seems to be no unified plan for carefully tracking who exactly benefits from the drug and who doesn't.

Such monitoring is urgently needed.

Paxlovid is extraordinarily effective, and was discovered, developed and launched in time to make a difference in this pandemic. The Food and Drug Administration authorized the regimen for emergency use based on a large clinical study that clearly showed it helped keep high-risk, unvaccinated people alive and out of the hospital.

But the operative word here is "unvaccinated." In practice today, Paxlovid is probably being taken more often by the many vaccinated people who are contracting COVID-19, as omicron and its even more infectious siblings circulate. Among the many still-unanswered questions about Paxlovid is whether vaccinated people — and especially those who have no other health risk factors — benefit from the drug.

So far, studies of the drug that have included unvaccinated, high-risk patients have provided no strong evidence that it helps people feel better faster. Early data from a Pfizer-led trial of Paxlovid in unvaccinated people who are not at high risk for serious infection and in vaccinated adults with at least one risk factor for severe illness did not reach statistical significance on the primary goal of alleviating symptoms for four consecutive days. Pfizer said last month that taking the drug prophylactically does not prevent more infections in a household where one person has tested positive for COVID-19.

Also unknown is whether Paxlovid can help prevent long COVID.

Most recently, a question has arisen about whether the drug might actually prolong infection in some patients. Certain people who take Paxlovid have found that they experience a rebound of their symptoms, and again test positive, when the pills are used up. One possible explanation is that the drug can in some cases suppress the infection enough to make the patient feel better, but not do away with it.

Some infectious disease doctors wonder whether a longer course of therapy — 10 days instead of five, perhaps — might fully shut down the virus. Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla has suggested that any patient experiencing a rebound should simply take a second course of the drug. That prompted the FDA to put out a statement on May 4 noting that "there is no evidence of benefit at this time" for extending or repeating treatment with Paxlovid.

The National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are reportedly mapping out studies to investigate rebound infections. "It is a priority," Clifford Lane, deputy director for clinical research at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, told Bloomberg News.

But given the slow pace of NIH COVID-19 studies, it seems unlikely that answers will arrive in time to guide the best use of Paxlovid in whatever variant wave arrives next.

As test-to-treat ramps up, it becomes more urgent to understand the rebound risks. Some people at low risk of COVID-19 complications might be using the drug merely to feel better faster rather than to stay out of the hospital, says Walid Gellad, associate professor of medicine and health policy at the University of Pittsburgh.

If the drug isn't fully clearing their infection and their symptoms return, Gellad wonders if the drug could actually be prolonging illness.

Doctors have other questions, too: Do new variants diminish the Paxlovid's efficacy? (Pfizer's trials were run before the emergence of Omicron.)

Are these rebound infections cause to worry that the coronavirus might be developing resistance to the pills?

And would the drug be more effective if it were combined with other antivirals, whether Merck's molnupiravir or one of the newer drugs in development.

When test-to-treat was launched, an opportunity was missed to follow the progress of patients who were prescribed the pill pack. That would have provided at least some observational data on how the drug works in vaccinated people and perhaps given a signal of whether it can prevent long COVID.

In its first-quarter earnings call, Bourla noted that Paxlovid has been added to the U.K.'s nationwide Panoramic study to see how well it works in that highly vaccinated population.

It looks as if, once again, the U.S. will need to look to other countries for the data it needs to understand COVID-19.

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5/6/22

Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to pay for a lawyer, the court will make sure an attorney is provided to you by the Chief Public Defender. Request for an attorney should be made immediately in person, by mail, or by fax at the court office where your hearing is to be held.
5/12/22 : 7209908

STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT JUVENILE MATTERS

ORDER OF NOTICE

Notice To: John Doe, father of child born to Patricia G on 11/11/2010

of parts unknown.

A petition has been filed seeking:
Termination of parental rights of the above named child(ren).
The petition, whereby the court's decision can affect your parental rights, if any, regarding minor child(ren) will be heard on:
5/31/22 at 11:30am at SCJM 920 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06106
Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of the hearing of this petition be given by publishing this Order of Notice once,
immediately upon receipt, in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in the town/city of Hartford, CT

Name of Judge (Print or type)
Hon. Michael Dannehy Signed (Judge/Clerk)
Debra A Rubert Date signed
5/9/22

Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to pay for a lawyer, the court will make sure an attorney is provided to you by the Chief Public Defender. Request for an attorney should be made immediately in person, by mail, or by fax at the court office where your hearing is to be held.
5/12/22 7209946

Steve Dale's PET WORLD Sundays in Smarter Living

Car Reviews
Saturdays in MOTORING

Connecticut

STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT JUVENILE MATTERS

ORDER OF NOTICE

Notice To: Jessica Thomas, Mother of child born on 4/29/20
of parts unknown.
A petition has been filed seeking:
Termination of parental rights of the above named child(ren).
The petition, whereby the court's decision can affect your parental rights, if any, regarding minor child(ren) will be
heard on: 6/3/22 @ 12:15pm at SCJM 25 School Street, Rockville, CT 06066
Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of the hearing of this petition be given by publishing this Order of Notice once, immediately upon receipt, in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in the town/city of Stafford Springs, CT

Name of Judge
Hon. Dawne Westbrook Signed (Judge/Clerk) K. Benegyani Date signed
5/9/22

Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to pay for a lawyer, the court will make sure an attorney is provided to you by the Chief Public Defender. Request for an attorney should be made immediately in person, by mail, or by fax at the court office where your hearing is to be held.
5/12/22 7209894

Connecticut

AT&T Mobility is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications facility on an existing building located at 2021 Albany Avenue, West Hartford, Hartford County, CT. The modifications will consist of the collocation of antennas at various heights not to exceed a centerline height of approx. 69-feet 8-inches above grade on the 57-foot-tall building (70-feet including appurtenances). Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6122004262 - KMG EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or at (781)265-9221.
5/12/2022 7208095

AT&T Mobility is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications facility on an existing building located at 732 Slater Road, New Britain, Hartford County, CT. The modifications will consist of the collocation of antennas at a height of 51ft. above ground level on the 53ft. tall building (87ft. measured to the top of existing lattice tower). Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6122003889 - TH EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or via telephone at (859) 312-3575.
5/12/2022 7208096

MIDDLETOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 5, 2022

Approved request for a variance of section 21.02 lot frontage in the R-15 Zone. Approval for the five lot subdivision.
665 Ridgewood Road Applicant/Agent Antonio Cuomo/Hubbard Properties LLc. V2022-3

Steven Kovach, Chair

Zoning Board of Appeals
5/12/22 7208557

Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated:

ExtraSpace Storage, 56 Pameacha Ave, Middletown,Ct 06457 860-575-7610 May 25,. 2022 at 11:00 AM

Mahogany Mcquillar

Unit#1035
Household Items

Anthony Collin
Unit#2024
Household Items

Faith Maura
Unit#3030
Household Items

Carla Hass
Unit#3067
Household Items

Carla Combastet
Unit#3138
Household Items

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property

5/12,5/19/22 7208862

Connecticut

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF CONTROL OF AETNA INSURANCE COMPANY OF CONNECTICUT BY CONTINENTAL CASUALTY COMPANY, THE CONTINENTAL CORPORATION, CNA FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND LOEWS CORPORATION

Notice is hereby given that the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Connecticut will conduct a public hearing on May 25, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. in room 601 at the Connecticut Insurance Department, 6th Floor, 153 Market Street, Hartford, CT. The hearing will be conducted pursuant to sections 38a-129 through 38a-140, 4-166 through 4-184, as applicable, of the Connecticut General Statutes; and sections 38a-8-1 through 38a-8-104, and 38a-138-1 through 38a-138-16, as applicable, of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies. This hearing shall be held in a hybrid fashion with a limited number of individuals being physically present and the remainder appearing remotely via telephone and video conference, in the event of a building closure, the hearing shall be held in an entirely virtual manner. Members of the public can attend this hearing via telephone by dialing 860-840-2075 and using passcode 525 337 47#. The hearing will include a period devoted exclusively to public comment. Persons interested in being designated a party or intervenor should consult sections 38a-8-48 and 38a-8-49 of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies.
The public hearing is being held on the question of granting approval pursuant to section 38a132(b)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes of the application filed by Continental Casualty
Company, the Continental Corporation, CNA Financial Corporation, and Loews Corporation (the
"Applicants"), dated February 10, 2022, and as amended and restated on May 3, 2022 (the "Application"). The Application requests the Insurance Commissioner's approval, as required by section 38a-130 of the Connecticut General Statutes, of the proposed acquisition of control of Aetna Insurance Company of Connecticut (the "Domestic Insurer").
The Proposed Acquisition will be affected pursuant to the terms of a Stock Purchase Agreement (the "Agreement") by and among Continental Casualty Company, AHP Holdings, Inc. (the parent company of the Domestic Insurer) and CVS Pharmacy Inc. (solely for limited purposes), dated as of December 15, 2021. The official record of this proceeding, which includes a copy of the Application and the Agreement, is on file with the Connecticut Insurance Department at 153 Market Street, 7th floor, Hartford, Connecticut and is available for public inspection during regular business hours, it is also available on the Connecticut Insurance Department's website at https://portal.ct.gov/cid.
At the public hearing, representatives of the Applicants and the Domestic Insurer, as well as any other party or intervenor designated by the Insurance Commissioner pursuant to sections 38a-848 and 38a-8-49 of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies, and his appointed hearing officer, will appear and be heard concerning the consideration by the Insurance Commissioner of the Application. The public will, at the hearing officer's discretion and in accordance with section 4-177c(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, be given an opportunity to comment on the Application with respect to the issues to be considered by the Insurance Commissioner. Written statements may also be submitted during the public comment portion of the public hearing or filed with the Insurance Department prior to the close of business on May 24, 2022, by mailing or delivering such statements to the Connecticut Insurance Department, P.O. Box 816, Hartford, CT 06142-0816, Attention: Jennifer M. Dowty, Esq.
The Insurance Department does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities, in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals requiring auxiliary aids for communication or other accommodation are invited to make their needs and preferences known by calling Victoria Cruise at (860) 757-5349.
Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 6th day of May 2022.
Andrew N. Mais
Insurance Commissioner
5/12, 5/19/2022 7208417

THE DANIELL FAMILY FOUNDATION, INC.

Notice of Availability of Annual Report for inspection. Pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, notice is hereby given that the Annual Report of The Daniell Family Foundation, Inc., may be inspected at the offices of Bruno & Associates, LLC, 719 Cottage Grove Road, Bloomfield, Connecticut, during regular business hours at said office by any citizen who requests inspection within 180 days after the date of this publication. The name of the principal manager of the foundation is Barbara Daniell.

THE DANIELL FAMILY FOUNDATION, INC.
by Barbara Daniell
Its President
5/12/2022 7210283

Car Reviews
Saturdays in MOTORING

Legal Notice

An Application for Demolition is being filed on or about May 11th, 2022, at the office of the Building Department, City of Middletown, 245 DeKoven Drive, Middletown, CT 06457. The property is owned by Philip J Bennett, 174 Old Road Dr., Middletown, CT 06457
5/11 - 5/17/2022 7209472

LEGAL NOTICE MIDDLETOWN WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT

On May 5, 2022 at 7:05pm, the Water Pollution Control Authority of the Town of Middletown, in its capacity, revised the Schedule of Rates, Charges and Fees for the connection to and the use of the sanitary sewer system. A complete copy of the adopted schedule was filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Town on May 9, 2022. Any appeal from such charges must be taken within twenty-one (21) days after this filing.
The existing Schedule of Rates, Charges and fees for the sanitary sewer collection system, as presently in effect and on file in the Water and Sewer Department, is hereby amended as set forth herein and shall be effective as of July 1, 2022 and for subsequent fiscal years as provided herein and shall continue in effect until such time as they may be further amended by the Water Pollution Control Authority
A. Properties Accepted
The following billing schedule and use charges shall apply to all properties which are now connected, directly or indirectly to the Middletown sanitary sewerage system including all properties located within the limits of the City of Middletown and all properties in the Town of Middlefield which are or may be connected to the Middletown sanitary sewer system pursuant to agreement between the City of Middletown and Town of Middlefield.
B. Sewer Billing Schedule
1. Quarterly: Billing dates as of August 1, November 1, February 1 and also May 1 shall apply to Residential, Commercial, or Industrial units having a meter size 5/8" to and including 1 " meters.
2. Monthly Period: Billing dates shall be the first day of the following month for Residential, Commercial, or Industrial units having a meter size 1 1/2" and above.
c. Sewer Use Charges
The sewerage use charge shall be at the rate of $6.84 per one hundred (100) cubic feet of water charged for by the City of Middletown as having been consumed on or in any lots, lands, building(s), or premises as shown by the water bills rendered to the owner of such lots, lands, building(s), or premises connected with said sewerage system. Properties not using City water, shall be charge the said rate and shall be applied to an estimated total water consumption of said lots, lands, buildings and premises based on two thousand three hundred fifty (2,350) cubic feet quarterly for said lots, lands, building(s), and premises for sewerage discharge into the Middletown sewerage system. The minimum charge per monthly and semi-annual period shall be $34.22 for consumption less than five hundred (500) cubic feet.
D. Effective Date:
Effective for all sewer use beginning July 1, 2022.
E. Repeal of Prior Charges: All previous sewer use charges established by the Water Pollution Control Authority of the City of Middletown are hereby repealed effective as of the effective date of the new charges.
A copy of this notice is on file in the Middletown Town Clerk's Office.
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
By: /s/ Joseph S. Fazzino, Director
Water and Sewer Department
Dated at Middletown, CT
May 9, 2022
5/12/2022 7209941

Other

TOWN OF BURLINGTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

2022 – 2023 TOWN BUDGET
BURLINGTON TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

The Burlington Board of Finance will hold a Public Hearing on the 2022-23 Budget on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 7:30 PM at the Burlington Town Hall Auditorium.

5/12/22 7208747

Liquor Notices

LIQUOR PERMIT NOTICE OF APPLICATION

This is to give notice that I, **PRAFUL R PATEL, 31 SURRAY DRIVE #3 NEWINGTON, CT 06111.** Have filed an application placarded **05/05/22** with the Department of Consumer Protection for a **GROCERY BEER PERMIT** for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at **539 NOTT ST WETHERFIELD , CT 06109**. The business will be owned by VINAYAK ENTERPRISE LLC. Entertainment will consist of: NONE Objections must be filed by: 6/14/22.

05/05/22
PRAFUL R PATEL

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OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Avon
Karla J. Fox
Berlin
Alfred Gregory
Bristol
Shirley C. Chizmas
East Hartford
Jeffrey Jackson
Deborah Wood
Enfield
Margaret I Cotton
Roland A Fenton
Glastonbury
John S. Zuk
Hartford
Katherine M Cascio
Alfred Gregory
Jeffrey Jackson
Floyd E. Ruddock
Newington
Karla J. Fox
Old Saybrook
Audrey J. Fulcher
Other Towns in CT
Elizabeth A. Bischoff
Lisette Paloczi
Rocky Hill
Elizabeth A. Bischoff
South Windsor
Richard W. Russell Sr.
West Hartford
Richard W. Russell Sr.
Wethersfield
Katherine M Cascio
Windsor
Janet H. Masterman

*** Denotes name listing only.**
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Fox, Karla J.Patterson



Karla Jean Patterson Fox, 77, passed away peacefully in Avon, CT on May 8, 2022 from complications related to Parkinson's Disease. She was born on October 10, 1944 in Romney, WV. She was the daughter of the late Woodrow Sanders Patterson and Eleanor (Largent) Patterson. Karla attended schools in Romney, and graduated from Romney High School, and then attended Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV, where she met her future husband. She interned during college summer breaks at the Federal Housing Administration in Washington, DC, while living in Chevy Chase, MD. She married James E. Fox on October 30, 1965 in Romney, WV, and following marriage, she was employed at GEICO Insurance Company and at IBM in Montgomery County Maryland while living in Silver Spring and Rockville, MD. She and her husband moved to New Britain, CT in 1966, where Karla continued her employment with IBM in Hartford, CT. She subsequently worked for the Futures Group in Glastonbury, CT, and later for the Aspinet Construction Company, Avon, CT before beginning with Avonridge, Inc., a luxury home builder, in what became her career work as a Project Manager building extraordinary residential properties in Connecticut's Farmington Valley and Litchfield County, CT. Karla excelled in that position for 25 years, earning the admiration and respect of home buyers, sub-contractors, realtors, and co-workers alike. It was a given that Karla brought her projects to completion "always on time and always on or under budget." She did a marvelous job in balancing that career with the raising of three busy and ambitious sons; Jeffrey, Jamie, and Jason. Karla and Jim moved to Newington, CT, in 1968 where they bought their first home, and relocated to Avon in 1978 where she lived for 44 years. She loved following all of the athletic and academic endeavors of her children and grandchildren, especially soccer, wrestling, baseball, basketball, and gymnastics, and watched them grow through their school and college years into wonderful young men and women with their own aspirations, careers and families. She was a gracious hostess in two separate gourmet groups for nearly 40 years; and developed close and wonderful long-lasting relationships with special friends. There will always be a place in the hearts of loving family and friends for Karla as she leaves them with great love, devotion, and memories. She is survived by her husband, James, her three sons, Jeff and wife Debra (Andrews) of Burlington, CT; Jamie and wife Jody (Strid) of Avon; and Jason and wife Lindsay (Jurist-Rosner) of New York City; her eight grandchildren: Charlie, Brady, Alison, Payton, Dylan, Lucy, Griffin, and Annie. Karla was predeceased by her brother Larry W. Patterson of Romney, WV, and is now deeply missed by her family and friends. The love she had for her family and friends was mutually felt, and she will remain in their hearts and memories forever. A special thanks and heartfelt gratitude is extended to the medical, nursing, nursing staff and others at the Avon Health Center where Karla spent the last several months of her fruitful life. Her final months were made easier with their devotion to her. May she finally rest in peace and love. Calling hours will be held at the Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center, 301 Country Club Road, Avon, on Sunday, May 15 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. Karla's life will be celebrated at a memorial service at St. James Episcopal Parish, 3 Mountain Road, Farmington, CT, by the Rev. George Roberts, Rector, where Karla was a member and communicant. The memorial service will be on Monday, May 16 at 11:00am, Burial services will follow at the St. James Memorial Garden. Memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation in Karla's name at www.parkinson.org. or 200 SE 1st Street, Miami, FL 33131. For online condolences and guest book entries, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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Jackson, Jeffrey



Jeffrey Jackson, 58, of Hartford, passed away unexpectedly Sunday, May 8, 2022. Jeffrey was predeceased by his mother Josephine 'Phina' Gonsalves and is survived by his beloved daughter, Sierra-Anne Jackson; his father, Leon Jackson Sr.; his aunt, Teresa Fleeting; brothers, Leon Jackson, Jr. and Allen Jackson; sister, Linda Jackson; and his ex-wife Laura Gaulin.
Jeffrey was a devoted father whose love for his daughter was unmatched. Many knew him as a gentle giant and #1 Dallas Cowboys fan. Jeffrey was always there for those when they needed him. A devoted father, football lover and homebody at heart, Jeffrey will be deeply missed.
Calling hours will be Friday, May 13, 2022 from 4pm to 7pm at Sheehan-Hilborn-Breen Funeral Home, 1084 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford. A Mass of Christian Burial will be Saturday, May 14, at 10am at St. Brigid Church, 1088 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford. Burial will be private. Online condolences may be made at www.SheehanHilbornBreen.com

Sheehan Hilborn Breen
FUNERAL HOME

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

OBITUARIES

Chizmas, Shirley C.



Shirley (Crampitz) Chizmas, 94, of Bristol, widow of John L. Chizmas, died on Monday (May 9, 2022) at home. Shirley was born in Bristol, on January 24, 1928 and was the daughter of the late Emil and Wanda (Blanc) Crampitz. A lifelong Bristol resident, she graduated from Bristol High School and would go on to meet and marry John and raise her family. She worked part-time in real estate for O.V. Snow Realty. Shirley was an active and devoted member of Zion Lutheran Church, Bristol, where she was a member and past-president of the Dorcas Society. She enjoyed gardening, summering on Cape Cod, wintering in Florida, and especially loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Shirley is survived by two children: Jane Theriault and husband, Richard of Bristol; and Jeffrey Chizmas and fiancée and life partner, Laura Leblanc of Middleton, MA and daughters, Rachael and Victoria; two granddaughters, Elizabeth Wenger of Pittsford, NY, and Katherine Abbott of Bristol; two great-granddaughters: Molly and Colleen; and nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a brother: Paul Crampitz and her granddaughter's husband, Paul Wenger. Funeral services will be held on Saturday (May 14, 2022) at 11 AM at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 27 Judd St., Bristol. Burial will follow in Peacedale Cemetery, Bristol. Relatives and friends may call at Zion Lutheran Church on Saturday prior to the service between 10 and 11 AM. Memorial donations may be made to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Memorial Fund, 27 Judd St., Bristol, CT 06010. Please visit Shirley's memorial web-site at www.FunkFuneralHome.com

Funk's Since 1865
www.FunkFuneralHome.com

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Cotton, Margaret I (Nagle)



Margaret Irene (Nagle) Cotton, age 80, of Williamsburg, Virginia, passed away on May 6, 2022. She was the widow of Norman Cotton and a beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was born on May 3, 1942, in Mid-Glamorgan, Wales, to Margaret and Maurice Nagle. She married Norman, a United States Airman, in London in 1959 and moved to the US with him in 1961. They raised two children, Catherine and Michael, living in various countries, and eventually settled in Connecticut upon Norman's Air Force retirement in 1976.

Following the death of her husband, Margaret moved to Williamsburg, Virginia and became a naturalized US citizen in May 1996. She remained in Williamsburg for the remainder of her life, where she was an active member of the local Master Gardener Association. Margaret loved gardening, travel and spoiling her grandchildren. She was a devout Catholic and was immensely proud of her Welsh heritage.

Margaret is preceded in death by her father, Maurice, mother, Margaret, and husband, Norman. She is survived by her daughter, Catherine Cotton; her son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Kimberly Cotton; her grandson Nicholas Bednaz and his wife Madeline; her grandson Christopher Bednaz; and her granddaughter, Michaela Cotton. She also leaves behind four great-grandchildren: Dominico, Jameson, Brady, and Norman Bednaz.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, May 14th, at 10:30am at St. Martha's Church in Enfield, Connecticut. The Rite of Commital will follow at St. Catherine's Church cemetery in East Windsor, Connecticut, where she will be laid to rest next to her husband.

In remembrance of Margaret's life, the family asks that any charitable donations be made to the American Lung Association or your favorite charity.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Fulcher, Audrey Jean



Audrey Jean Fulcher, M.S., R.N., age 96, passed away peacefully in Old Saybrook on April 27, 2022. She was born in Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania on April 23,1926 to the late Roy and Sarah Freeborough Fulcher. Preceded in death by her brother, Robert, she leaves behind her sister-in-law Jacqueline Fulcher, nephews Robert (Diane) Fulcher and Scott Fulcher, and niece Mary Beth Fulcher.
Known to family and friends as Jean, she worked as a registered nurse and nursing educator. After serving as a cadet nurse in World War II, Jean graduated from the Hartford Hospital School of Nursing in 1947, where she was elected class president. She subsequently earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Boston University and a master's degree in nursing from Columbia University. Jean taught at the New Britain School of Nursing, the Hartford Hospital School of Nursing, and was an Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing at the University of Connecticut School of Nursing. By the time she retired in the early 1970s, Jean had trained hundreds of nurses. She was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, the international honor society of nursing, and was recognized by the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation at Columbia University for her role supporting women's education and leadership. Jean was a long-distance bridge player with her nursing school classmate, the late Audrey Jean Carroll. She was an avid sports fan devoted to both UConn women's basketball, the New York Yankees, and the New York Giants for over 60 years. With her detailed knowledge of family genealogy, Jean greatly enjoyed assisting relatives over the years in piecing together family history. A longtime resident of Old Saybrook, Jean was very active in the community. She was a founder of the Indiantown Beach Beautification Committee, on which she served for five years and served eight years as the tax collector for the association. She will be missed by many extended family members and lifelong friends. The family would like to thank the staff at both Gladeview Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center and Golden Horizons Elder Care Services and express special gratitude to Cathy Reich for her many years of care and support. Visitation will be held on Friday, May 13th, 2022 from 11:00 am - 11:45 am in the Swan Funeral Home, 1224 Boston Post Rd., Old Saybrook, CT. Burial to immediately follow in Riverside Cemetery, Sheffield Rd., Old Saybrook, CT.

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Masterman, Janet Helen (Plummer)



Janet Helen (Plummer) Masterman, 86, formerly of Windsor, died peacefully Friday (February 11, 2022) at Northside Forsyth Hospital in Cumming, Georgia with her children by her side. She was born on December 8, 1935, in Shamokin, Pennsylvania, daughter of the late Roland and Helen (Freedline) Plummer, and had lived in Windsor for 38 years before moving to Alpharetta, Georgia to live with her daughter in 2021. She was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years Richard "Dick" Masterman (May 19, 2003) and her brother William "Bill" Roland Plummer (June 6, 2021). Janet's survivors include her daughter, Lynn Masterman of Alpharetta, Georgia; a son and daughter-in-law, David and Linda (Kratz) Masterman; and two grandchildren, Caleigh and Kyle Masterman, all of Medford Lakes, NJ.
A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 14, 1 p.m., at Trinity Church, 180 Park Ave., Windsor. Memorial donations may be made to Wounded Warriors at www.woundedwarriorproject.org or Samaritan's Purse at www.samaritanspurse.org. Carmon Windsor Funeral Home has care of the arrangements. For online condolences and to read the complete obituary please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

CARMON Community Funeral Homes

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Paloczi, Lisette

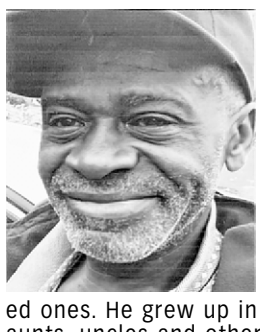


Lisette Paloczi, 77, of Ashford, CT, wife of the late Zoltin Paloczi, passed away on Monday, May 9, 2022 at Hartford Hospital. She was born in Nante (Spring Hill), Quebec, Canada, daughter of the late Emile and Irene (Mercier) Laprise. Lisette worked for years as a daycare provider, and previously, prior to having children, she worked at the American Thread Company. She enjoyed cooking, knitting, sewing, reading, and watching the many birds that visited her property. Above all, Lisette loved and protected her family and had no greater joy than her grandchildren. She is survived by her two daughters, Lina Janosi and her husband Michael, and Kathleen Vandegrift; five grandchildren, Ryan and Victoria Janosi, and Hope, Mariel, and Peter Vandegrift; siblings, Renaud Laprise, Jacques Laprise and his wife Lise, Alain Laprise, Michel Laprise and his wife Laura, and Marc Laprise and his partner Eric Goyette; sisters-in-law, Elizabeth Toth and Celine Laprise; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers, Renald and Guy Laprise. A calling hour will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2022 from 9-10 A.M., with a funeral service to take place at 10 A.M. at Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc., 51 East Main St., Stafford Springs, CT. Burial will follow in Woodward Cemetery, Ashford, CT. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Ashford Volunteer Fire Department, 46 Westford Rd., Ashford, CT 06278. To leave a condolence online for the family, please visit: www.introvignefuneralhome.com

Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Ruddock, Floyd E.



Floyd E Ruddock, 62, of Hartford, beloved father, brother, uncle and friend, departed this world on April 27, 2022. Floyd died peacefully, surrounded by family, at Hartford Hospital. Floyd was born on May 15, 1959, to Thomas and Merinda (Johnson) Ruddock in Westmoreland, Jamaica, where he lived with 15 siblings, including 4 adopted ones. He grew up in a close community of cousins, aunts, uncles and other relatives. Floyd worked at the National Family Planning Board for several years until he migrated to the United States. There, he worked at Bradley International Airport, Sydney Taxi, then TLD where he remained for 19 years.
Floyd is survived by his daughter, Isabella, 7 sisters, 3 stepsisters, 8 brothers, 2 stepbrothers, 4 sisters-in-law, 6 brothers-in-law, 35 nieces and nephews and a host of cousins and friends. He is predeceased by his parents. Visitation will be on Saturday May 14, 2022, 9:00 am with The Celebration of Life Service at 9:30 am at The Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Road Windsor CT., followed by burial at Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery. For online condolences please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com

CARMON Community Funeral Homes

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Zuk, John Stanislaw



John Stanislaw Zuk, 59, of Glastonbury, beloved husband for 35 years of Danuta (Nowakowska) Zuk, passed away on Friday, May 6, 2022, surrounded by his family at his home. Born in Jaroslaw, Poland on January 2, 1963, son of Bronislawa (Kowal) Zuk of Poland and the late Jozef Zuk, he was raised in Poland and immigrated with his family to the United States in 1988. After living in Hartford and New Britain, John and his family moved to Glastonbury in 1996. John was the owner of Preferred Maid for 25 years and provided residential cleaning services throughout the Hartford area. In his spare time, he enjoyed golfing, hiking, and skiing with his family and friends and tinkering with things in his garage. An avid beekeeper, John loved taking care of his hives each spring and summer and making honey. He was a parishioner of SS. Cyril & Methodius Church in Hartford for over 30 years. Besides his wife and mother, he leaves a son, Camil Zuk of Brooklyn, NY; and a daughter, Evelyn Zuk of West Palm Beach, FL. A Mass of Christian Burial will be Celebrated on Saturday, May 14, 10 a.m., at SS. Cyril & Methodius Church, 61 Popieluszko Court, Hartford. Burial will follow in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Waszkelewicz South Green Memorial Home in Hartford has care of the arrangements. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

CARMON Community Funeral Homes

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OBITUARIES

Bischoff, Elizabeth Ann

Elizabeth Ann Bischoff (Madden) 75, of Rocky Hill, left us on May 7th 2022. The beloved wife of John H. Bischoff for 53 years, Ann worked in various convalescent homes for over 40 years. She leaves her sister, Kathy Blackett; cousins, Debbie Peterson, Lori Benito; in laws, Alice & Peter Marceau, Don and Donna Bischoff and two wonderful neighbors, Erin and Matt. Ann was predeceased by her parents, John and Muriel Madden. There will be no calling hours or services. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to any of the Rocky Hill Police, Fire, or Ambulance Associations. Please share online expressions of sympathy, memories, or photo tributes at www.rosehillfuneralhomes.com

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Cascio, Katherine M (Ahern)



Katherine Marjorie (Ahern) Cascio, 70, of Wethersfield, CT, passed away on Thursday March 24, 2022 surrounded by her family at a hospice house in Venice, FL after a long battle with Dementia/ Alzheimer's disease. Marge is survived by her husband of over 50 years, Ralph, and their sons: Ryan Cascio of Englewood, FL; and SMSgt (USAF) Jeffrey Cascio and his wife Michelle, and six grandsons, Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.nationalcremation.com, search Katherine Cascio.
A celebration of life will be held at the Wethersfield Evangelical Free Church at 511 Maple St, Wethersfield, CT. on Saturday May 14, 2022 at 3PM.

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Fenton, Roland A

Roland A. Fenton,90, of Enfield, peacefully passed away on Monday, May 9, 2022 at St Francis Hospital. He was born in Portland, ME on May 30, 1931, son of the late Merrill H. and Rose Z, (Belle) Fenton. He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force during the Korean War conflict. He continued his passion for aviation with along standing career in jet engine testing for Pratt and Whitney. He was also a long time parishioner of St. Martha Church. Roland is survived by his son Merrill Fenton; his sisters, Kimberly Fenton and Merrille Brown; his grandchildren, Sarah and Rachel Brown, and John Scott Weatherwax; and his beloved companion of over 14 years, Carolyn Sengle. His family will receive relatives and friends from 9:30 – 10:30 am on Friday, May 13, 2022 at Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels, 61 South Rd, Enfield. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11 am at St Martha Church, 214 Brainard Rd, Enfield. Burial will follow at St Anne's Cemetery in Three Rivers, MA. For online condolences, please visit www.leetestevens.com.

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Gregory, Alfred

Please join the Gregory family in honoring Alfred's passing at a Memorial Service on:

Saturday, May 14, 2022 10 a.m. At St. Paul's Church
461 Alling St Kensington, CT 06037

After the Service, attendees are invited to join the family at Casa Mia at The Hawthorne at 2421 Berlin Turnpike, Berlin, CT 06037

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Russell Sr., Richard W.



Richard W. Russell Sr., 80, of South Windsor, beloved husband of Beverly (Lassen) Russell died unexpectedly on Sunday, May 8, 2022, at home. Richard was born in Hartford, CT, on April 17, 1942, son of the late Arthur and Alice (Adamson) Russell. He grew up in West Hartford and was a graduate of Hall High School. He served our country during the Vietnam War with the U.S. Air Force, and later transferred to the U.S. Air Guard. He married the love of his life, Beverly Lassen on October 13, 1960. Richard was a sheet metal engineer and worked for the Local Union #40 for many years. He enjoyed boating, fishing, camping, working on cars, guns, and driving his corvette. He was a talented man and could make or fix anything with wood or sheet metal. Most of all he loved his family and cherished every moment he had to spend with his children, and grandchildren. Along with his wife Beverly of over 61 years, he leaves his children, Elizabeth George of Broad Brook, Richard Russell Jr., and his wife Sharon of Coventry, Virginia Thivierge of Manchester, and April Piela and her husband David of Vernon; his grandchildren, Brittany Quesnel and her husband Steve, Alexandra George, Rebecca George, Matthew Thivierge, Andrew Thivierge, Jacob Thivierge, Whitney Russell, and Kira Piela; and his great grandchildren, Aubrey and Charlotte. He also leaves his sister-in-law Shirley Wold of Minneapolis, MN. He was predeceased by his infant daughter, Cynthia Russell, his brothers, Thomas Russell, and Arthur Russell, and his faithful companion and loving friend, his dog Bear. His family will receive friends on Sunday, May 15, 2022, from 2-5 p.m., at the Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home, 419 Buckland Rd., South Windsor. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, May 16, 2022, at 10 a.m., meeting directly at St. Margaret Mary Church, 80 Hayes Rd., South Windsor. Burial will follow with Military Honors at Wapping Cemetery in South Windsor. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to DAV- Disabled American Veterans PO Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

CARMON Community Funeral Homes

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Wood, Deborah



Memorial Services for Deborah "Debby" Wood, formerly of East Hartford and wife of the late Robert "Bob" Wood will be on Saturday, May 14, at 11 a.m. at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes Street, East Hartford. Private burial will be at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. The D'Esopo-East Hartford Memorial Chapel has care of the arrangements.

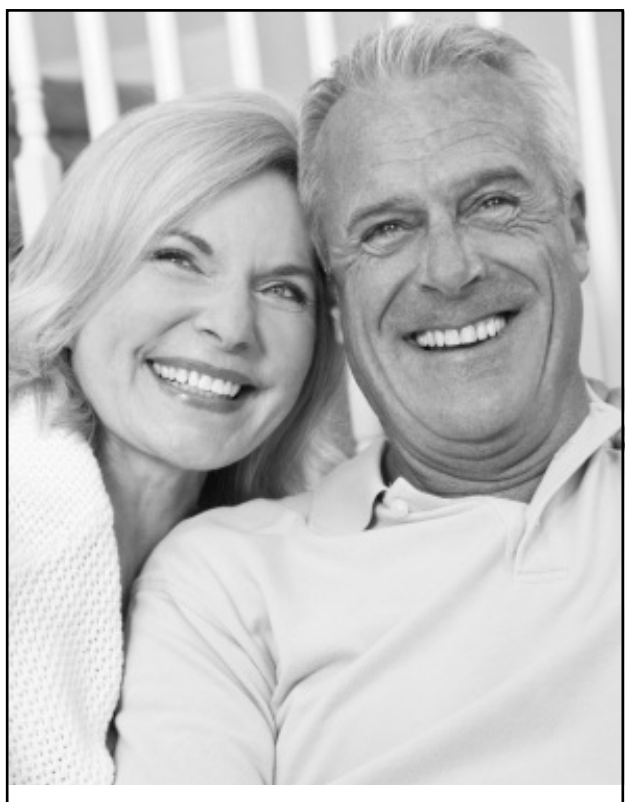
D'Esopo Funeral Chapel

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IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of
MILDRED TOSTARELLI-BALKUS
May 12, 2019
We love and miss you everyday
Your loving family

In Loving Memory Of
ELIZABETH (HIPP) YERAMIAN
1900-May 11,1936
My Mother. George Yeramian Jr



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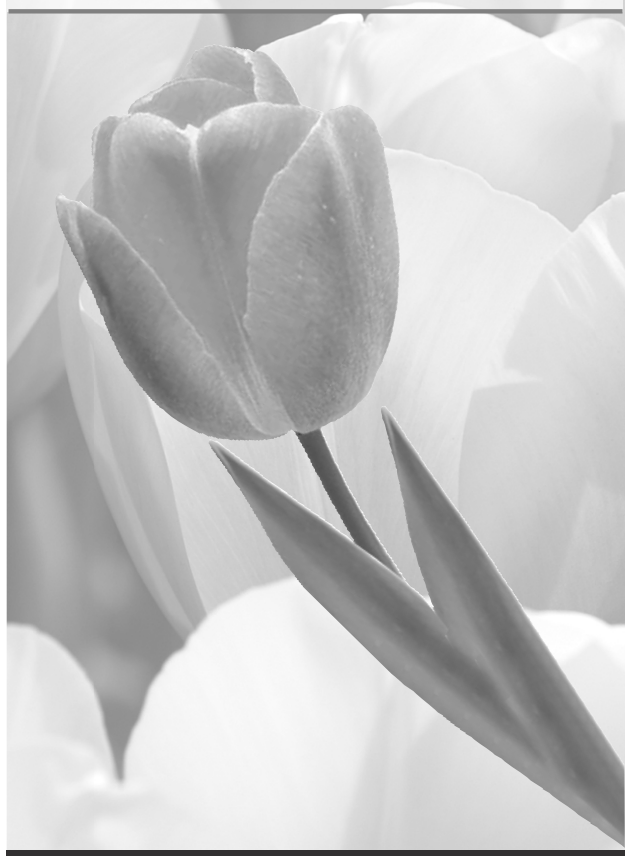
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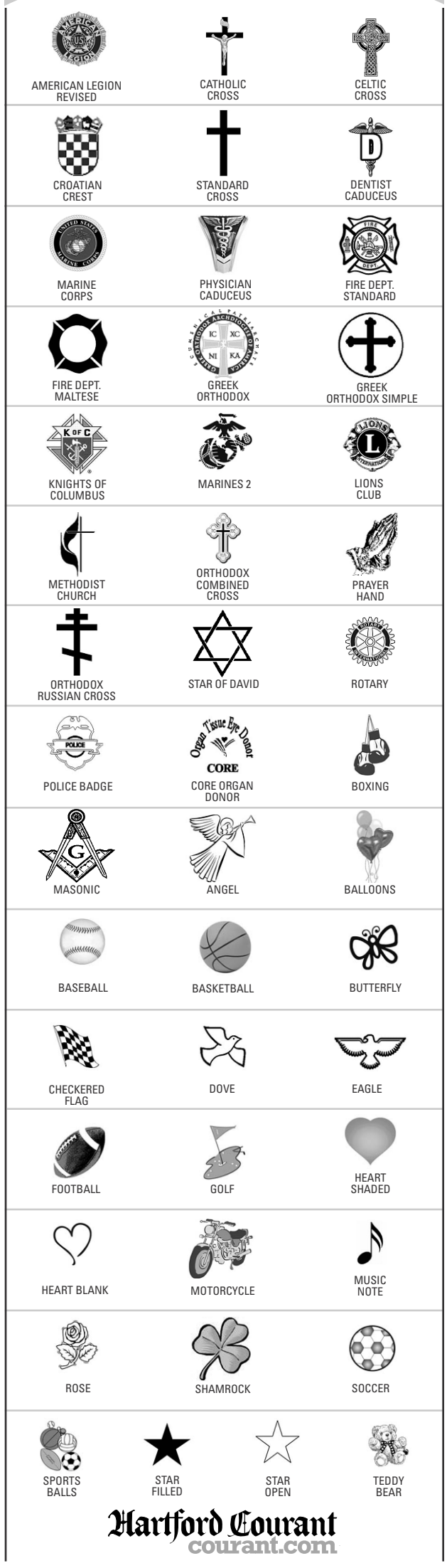
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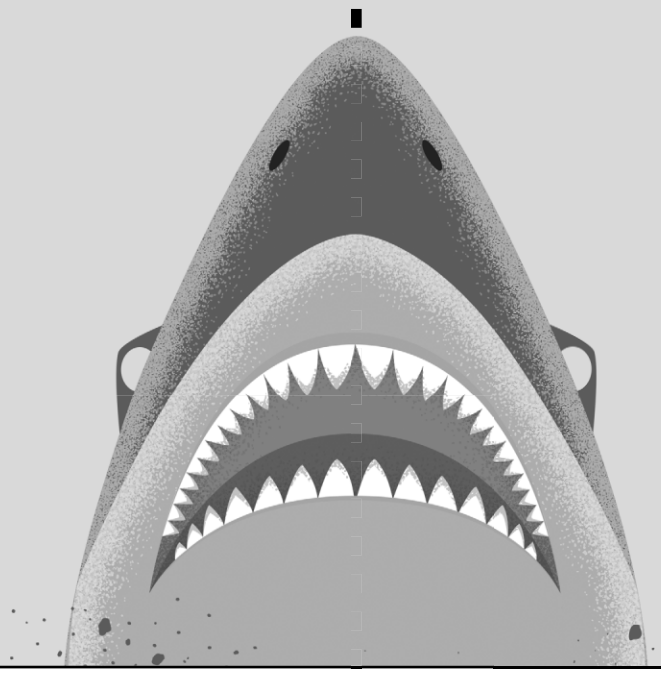


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Hartford Courant

CONNECTICUT

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Rep. Petit leaving at end of term

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

After six years in the General Assembly, Rep. William Petit has joined about two dozen state legislators who are leaving when their current terms end.

Petit, a Republican whose 22nd District covers Plainville and parts of Southington and Farmington, said Tuesday that he wants to spend more time with his family.

He also acknowledged that the lopsided Democratic majority in the state House has reduced the impact of his vote in Hartford.

"The legislature was much more effective back in 2017 — it's not a balanced House and Senate any more," said Petit, whose freshman term was spent in a nearly evenly split House. Democrats held just a 79-72 edge, and the Senate was divided 18-18.



Petit

In recent years, Republicans have slipped badly in Connecticut; Democrats now control the House 97-54 and the Senate 23-13. Even though Petit's popularity with Plainville voters has remained strong — he won reelection in 2018 by a 66-34 margin and was unopposed in 2020 — the dynamics at the Capitol changed what he could accomplish, Petit said Wednesday.

"A lot of my colleagues get tired of losing vote after vote after vote, even when you feel like it's a good faith amendment or suggestion," Petit said.

The primary reason to leave after the November election, though, is to spend more time with his parents and with his young son, Petit said.

"I've tried to think about it from both sides. If I was on the majority side and we had 90 (seats) and the other guys had 60, would I stay? No," he said. "My dad is 88, my mom is 87, neither of them drive. My son William is 8. It's time to put them first now. I need a little more flexibility in my schedule."

Petit, 65, is the ranking member of the public health committee and also serves on education and the energy and technology committees. All of that takes a toll on daily schedules, he said.

"After you've been there a while, your

Turn to Petit, Page 2



Firefighters have been battling wind-whipped brush fires that consumed almost 300 acres of woods and open land Tuesday and Wednesday in Middletown. **SEAN FOWLER/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

BRUSH FIRES SCAR MIDDLETOWN

Chief says 1 of 2 blazes covering nearly 300 acres labled suspicious

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

About 100 firefighters have been battling wind-whipped brush fires that consumed almost 300 acres of woods and open land Tuesday and Wednesday in Middletown.

No one has been hurt, but one of the two fires was labeled suspicious, Middletown South District Fire Chief Jim Trzaski said. The fires have been mostly contained, but firefighters continued to work Wednesday morning.

Fire danger remains very high in the state, the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection warned.

"Even though green-up has begun," the agency said in an alert posted on Facebook, "the tree canopy is still open enough that the dry air and endless wind are keeping the fire danger VERY HIGH as the week goes on.

"Absolutely no open burning in the outdoors! No matches or cigarettes should be tossed on the ground (ever!). Be careful with any lawn equipment or saws that can produce sparks if using away from your green lawn. Report any brush or forest fires immediately by dialing 911. Stay safe out there."

The first blaze in Middletown was reported on Tuesday at about 1 p.m. when a tree came down on electrical wires off River Road. Live wires on the ground sparked a fire, which gusty winds quickly spread.

As fire officials called in more resources, the blaze, which has mostly affected land owned by Eversource, continued to expand, Trzaski said.

"It moved so quickly that by the time we would set up a fire line, it would move past that," he said.

Turn to Fires, Page 2

WAR IN UKRAINE

Walesa: 'It's not enough to defeat Russia militarily'

Former president of Poland visits Hartford to promote relief campaign

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

Bringing his Ukraine relief campaign to Hartford, former Polish President Lech Walesa on Tuesday called on a crowd at Infinity Hall in Hartford to help the millions of refugees flooding into Poland.

At the same time, Walesa said the world's nations now face an opportunity to curb Russia's long tradition of political corruption and imperialism.

"At this point, it is not enough for Ukraine to defeat Russia militarily. Unless we really put the right order in Russia, Russia will rise again within five to 10 years and will constitute a threat to the rest of the world again," Walesa said.

Speaking to more than 200 people at a gathering sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Connecticut, Walesa also said it is urgent that citizens around the globe defend democracies from a wave of power-hungry demagogues.

"Participate in elections, because in Poland we underestimated this right to

Turn to Walesa, Page 2



Lech Walesa, former president of Poland, talks with Megan Clark Torrey of the World Affairs Council of Connecticut during a forum Tuesday at Infinity Hall in Hartford. **DON STACOM/HARTFORD COURANT**

Stefanowski comments on state abortion law

By Mark Pazniokas
CT Mirror

Gov. Ned Lamont this week challenged his Republican opponent, Bob Stefanowski, to break his silence and take a position on the abortion rights bill that recently passed with the support of Stefanowski's running mate, state Rep. Laura Devlin of Fairfield.

"I think that any candidate for governor has got to speak up and let us know where you stand," Lamont said this week at a ceremonial signing of the bill outside the Capitol. "What have I heard from the Republican candidate for governor? Crickets."

Stefanowski had remained silent on House Bill 5414 in the three weeks since it cleared the House of Representatives on an 87-60 vote, with Devlin and six

Turn to Stefanowski, Page 2



State Rep. Laura Devlin, R-Fairfield, a candidate for lieutenant governor, and Republican candidate for governor Bob Stefanowski talk May 6 at the State Republican Convention. **JESSICA HILL/AP**

New Haven artist Rembert receives Pulitzer posthumously

Prize given for memoir of living through the Jim Crow South

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

The late artist Winfred Rembert, who lived and worked in Connecticut for the last 30 years of his life, was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Biography on Monday for his book "Chasing Me to My Grave: An Artist's Memoir of the Jim Crow South."

Celebrated in the state for his artistic talent and for overcoming myriad struggles, he was known for using those troubled times as the basis for drawings he carved into pieces of leather.

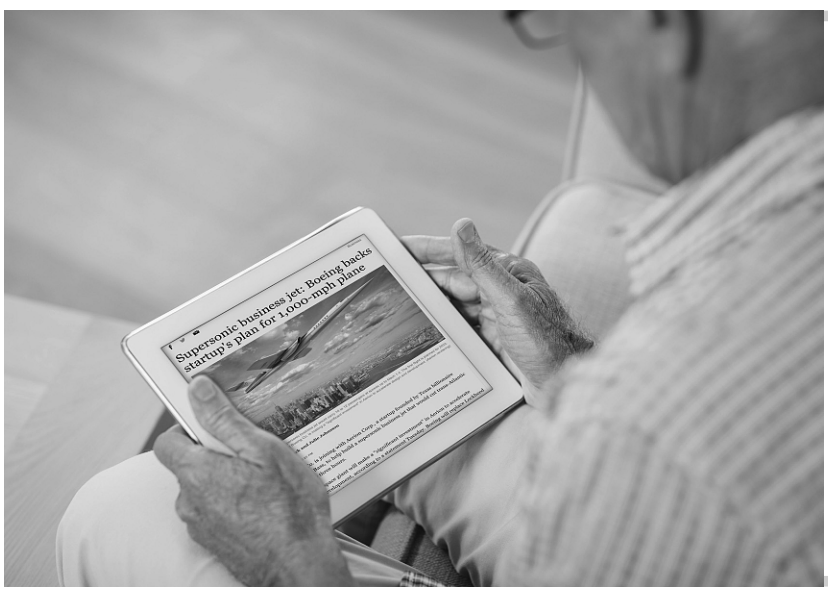
The book, credited as "by the late Winfred Rembert as told to Erin I. Kelly" was published this past September by Bloomsbury Publishing, six months after Rembert died in New Haven at age 75.



Rembert

The Pulitzer committee describes the book as "a searing first-person illustrated

Turn to Rembert, Page 2



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CONNECTICUT

Recent arrest spotlights dangers of online deals

Police say Stratford case provides alert regarding private sales

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

Stratford police say a recent robbery arrest illustrates the dangers of buying and selling items privately after online posts.

Shahiem Donald, 18, of Ansonia, faces first-degree robbery, third-degree assault and fifth-degree larceny charges in connection with an April 23 robbery, police said Wednesday.

The victim placed a Facebook Marketplace ad to sell an iPhone and met Donald at a pre-arranged location, where Donald assaulted the victim and stole his phone, police said. The victim said he saw a handgun during the robbery, police said.

Stratford detectives, working with Bridgeport police, identified Donald as a suspect and later found that he and co-conspirators were contacting people throughout Fairfield County to either buy or sell iPhones and other items, police said. Donald and his crew would then use force to steal phones and other valuables, police said.

Police throughout the state have warned people who are buying or selling items in private deals to arrange meetings in safe places, including police-station parking lots.

The investigation into Donald and his co-conspirators, police said, continues and anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Torres or Detective Policano at 203-381-2098.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com.



Firefighters have been battling wind-whipped brush fires that consumed almost 300 acres of woods and open land Tuesday and Wednesday in Middletown. **SEAN FOWLER/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

Fires

from Page 1

At one point Tuesday night, the fire was threatening homes on River Road, but firefighters managed to head it off, the chief said.

The first fire has consumed about 250 acres bounded by Aircraft, Freeman and River roads, he said. The second fire, labeled suspicious, started on the other side of Freeman Road and affects 30-40 acres, Trzaski said.

A total of 10 fire departments have provided mutual aid, along with DEEP firefighters. DEEP staff and members of the Connecticut Interstate Fire Crew were working Wednesday to maintain a perimeter by conducting back burns, agency spokesman Will Healey said. The cause of the second fire is unconfirmed, Healey said, but it was not caused by a lightning strike or downed power lines.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com.

Rembert

from Page 1

account of an artist's life during the 1950s and 1960s in an unreconstructed corner of the deep South — an account of abuse, endurance, imagination, and aesthetic transformation."

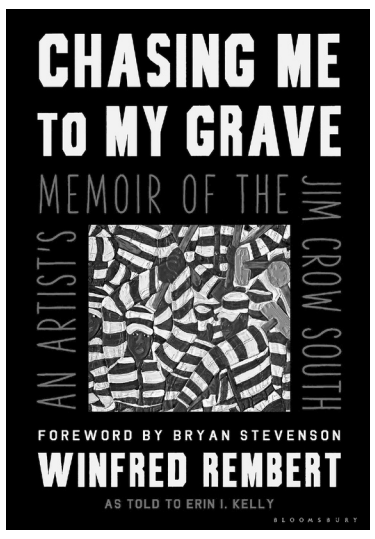
Rembert's art reflects his childhood and early work and prison experiences in the South, but he didn't start making that art until he moved to New Haven in 1987. He was already in his 50s when his wife Patsy encouraged him to use his life experience as the basis for drawings and paintings. He was skilled at carving and painting leather and that became his primary artistic medium.

Rembert was born in Georgia, worked in cotton fields as a child, spent time in jail — including for civil-rights protests against Jim Crow segregation laws — served on a chain gang and survived a lynching attempt.

In Connecticut, he fell in with drug dealers in Bridgeport and the Bronx, dealing a little and nearly killing someone who had stolen from him. Arrested, convicted and sentenced to four years, he was released due to pleas from Patsy and a promise he made to a judge never to sell drugs again. He kept the promise.

Rembert was befriended by Phil and Sharon McBlain, Hamden-based antiquarian booksellers who specialized in African and African-American subjects. As a gift to Phil McBlain, Rembert created a painting on leather, based on a drawing by Miguel Covarrubias he had seen in a book at the McBlains' shop. The couple encouraged him to do more, and helped him make his first big sale.

It was also the McBlains who introduced Rembert to Erin Kelly, a philosophy professor at Tufts University who writes about criminal justice, reparations and civil-rights issues. Rembert asked Kelly to collaborate on his memoir. She interviewed Rembert in his New Haven home for two or three hours at a time, twice a month, for a period of two years.



Winfred Rembert has won a Pulitzer Prize posthumously for his book "Chasing Me to My Grave." **COURTESY**

One of Rembert's first art exhibits came about because of Johnes Ruta, who was active in the local arts community and curated the art that hung on the walls of an arthouse cinema in downtown New Haven. In the book, Rembert recalls:

Johnes gave me a show in early 1998, at the York Square theater on Broadway in New Haven. It was a little show with about ten pictures. I brought some good-sized portraits of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, which I made because I thought people would be interested in buying pictures of famous people. I also included a few cotton fields and other pictures from my own life. I noticed that, even though it was Black History Month, no one was looking at any of the portraits. I said to Patsy, "No one is paying attention to Martin Luther King." There was a White man walking around, looking at the work. He heard me say that and he turned to me and said, "You know why that is so?"

"No sir, tell me."

"We can get a picture of Martin Luther King or Malcolm X anywhere we want to buy it. But we can't get what you do out of your head. That's what we want."

This revelation changed Rembert's approach to his art, and this focus on his

unique experience and talents also led him to commit to the unusual medium he had begun to work in.

"I could have easily put it on paper, and it would have been easier and less time consuming if I put it on paper," he writes. "But let's add a little something to it by putting it on leather."

Rembert's work was seen in Hartford last year as part of the Wadsworth Atheneum exhibit "Protest and Promise: Selections from the Contemporary Art Collection 1963-2019" and in 2000 at the Yale University Art Gallery in "Southern Exposure: Works by Winfred Rembert and Hale Woodruff." Both museums have work by Rembert in their permanent collections.

Rembert was the subject of numerous feature stories in Connecticut newspapers and magazines over the past 20 years, including a long profile by Owen McNally in the Courant in 2000 (when Rembert's art was on view at Yale) that recounts some of the same adventures that made it into the book.

Rembert's work was featured in other books prior to the memoir, including "Don't Hold Me Back: My Life and Art" in 2003 and the catalogues for his exhibits "Amazing Grace" and Memories of My Youth." A documentary about the artist, "All Me: The Life And Times of Winfred Rembert" directed by Vivian Ducat, was released in 2011. A "Winfred Rembert 2023 Wall Calendar" is scheduled to be published in August.

Besides the Pulitzer Prize, "Chasing Me to My Grave: An Artist's Memoir of the Jim Crow South," was named Nonfiction Book of the Year by Booklist and made "Best Books of the Year" lists at NPR, Publishers Weekly, BookPage, Barnes & Noble, Hudson Booksellers, ARTnews, and elsewhere.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

Petit

from Page 1

responsibilities increase significantly," Petit said. "It's a more time-consuming and complicated job — more than I knew about when I started. I'm not quite sure how people with full-time jobs manage."

Petit has plenty of company in leaving the General Assembly this year.

In greater numbers than usual, incumbents from both parties have been announcing they're done — which means the November election will have more open seats than usual.

In Greater Hartford, a few of the departing lawmakers include Democratic Rep. John Hampton of Simsbury and three Republicans: Rep. Whit Betts, who represents Plymouth and part of Bristol, Sen. Dan Champagne of Vernon and Sen. Kevin Witkos of Canton.

Democrats this week will nominate a candidate for the 22nd House District; Plainville school board member Rebecca Martinez is seeking the endorsement. Republicans will select their candidate next week; so far, Francis Rexford-Cooley appears to be the likely choice.

In Simsbury, former First Selectman Eric Wellman is seeking the Democratic endorsement to run for the seat that Hampton is leaving. Attorney Melissa Osborne earlier this year filed documents with the state indicating that she would run.

On the Republican side, former Selectman Michael Paine is looking to run on the GOP ticket.

In Champagne's 14-town Senate district, Coventry town council member Lisa Thomas is seeking the Democratic endorsement to run. Dr. Jeff Gordon of Woodstock wants to run on the GOP line.

Declared candidates for Witkos' state Senate seat in the Farmington Valley include Republican Lisa Seminara and Democrat Paul Honig.

Joe Hoxha and Aileen Abrams have filed documents to seek the GOP endorsement for Betts' House district; no Democrats had filed as of Tuesday.

Walesa

from Page 1

vote and we allowed populists and demagogues to get the power. Looking at the example of Poland, the brave Polish people cannot really get rid of those demagogues and populists right now," he said.

Walesa, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, is touring the United States this spring to champion the cause of Ukrainian refugees who have flooded into Poland because of the Russian attacks on their homeland. It's currently estimated that up to 3.2 million displaced Ukrainians are in Poland, with more than another million in Hungary, Moldova, Romania and elsewhere.

The Red Cross, Americares, Project Hope, Caritas and dozens of other organizations are running humanitarian aid operations in some of those countries, and Walesa's Lech Walesa Institute is channeling money to help. The World Affairs Council announced that all proceeds from Tuesday evening's speech and invitation-only reception would go into that fund.

On stage at the Infinity, the 78-year-old founder of Poland's once-powerful Solidarity movement said helping Ukraine and its people is a pressing task. But he also believes free nations — particularly the United States and Germany — must lead the world in changing the course of Russia.

Most of the globe is ready for a period of safety, security and peaceful resolution to conflicts, he told Megan Clark Torrey, chief executive officer of the World Affairs Council of Connecticut and the evening's moderator.

"Throughout all our history we have had troubles with Russia, and today Russia constitutes trouble again," he said. "The political system that rules there is terrible. A single individual — Lenin, Stalin before, Brezhnev and now Putin — can cause this terrible threat to the world," he said.

"This time Putin has made a mistake. Somehow he has inspired the whole world to unite and oppose Russia. It's a great opportunity for the world to give the final blow to Russia. The United Nations and the world must force Russia to introduce changes to its political system," he said, calling for term limits, an independent judiciary, a constitutionally guaranteed free press and other elements of Western democracies.

"Two tasks still remain: The first to deal with Russia, who represents the remnant of the old world. The second, to help China to adjust to the track along which we have been moving," Walesa said through his interpreter, Magdalena Iwinska.

"These are tasks that Poland alone cannot address. I believe in Europe it should be Germany who should be leading, and in the world it should be the United States," he said. "Here is my appeal to you, United States: Take advantage of the opportunity that has been given to us."

Stefanowski

from Page 1

other Republicans voting with 80 Democrats in support.

The measure provides a "safe harbor" to women from states with restrictive abortion laws who get abortions in Connecticut, as well as the clinicians who provide them.

It also conforms state law with a 21-year-old legal opinion permitting APRNs, nurse midwives and physicians' assistants to perform first-trimester abortions by suction, the most common type of early abortion.

Stefanowski's only comment on abortion in recent weeks had been a suggestion that abortion was not an issue in Connecticut.

He responded cautiously to the leak of a draft opinion that indicated a majority of the U.S. Supreme Court had taken at least an early vote on overturning Roe v. Wade, the 1973 landmark case that legalized abortion.

"The leaked Supreme Court opinion doesn't change anything here in Connecticut. In Connecticut, a woman's right to choose is fully protected under state law," Stefanowski said last week in a written statement.

Stefanowski's campaign said Tuesday that he had no further comment.

On Wednesday, however, his campaign released a new statement.

"The unauthorized leak of a draft Supreme Court decision on Roe vs. Wade, has resulted in a renewed discussion on the critical and intensely personal issue of abortion across our country," he said in the statement. "While discussions in many states will likely continue over the summer, it is important for Connecticut residents to remember that the right to an abortion was codified into Connecticut state law over 30 years ago and regardless of what the Supreme Court decides this right will remain in effect in our state.

"Further, under no circumstances will I as Governor attempt to change the existing law. A woman's right to choose has been, is, and will remain codified in Connecticut State Law, including Connecticut's ban on late term abortions - except in the case where the mother's health is at risk," the statement said.

The statement also said the candidate think Connecticut should consider a parental notification requirement for minors under 16 seeking an abortion, "except in the case of rape or incest. This requirement is already in place for most medical procedures performed on minors and abortion should be no exception."

"As your Governor, I will do everything in my power to ensure that as a state we support and care for women facing these difficult decisions, and when chosen, abortions are safe and legal," the statement said.

Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz had said Stefanowski was offering women no assurance he would veto any effort to restrict access to abortion in Connecticut, a state whose legislature passed a law 32 years ago codifying the tenets of Roe.

"It's one thing to support the current law. It's another thing to step forward and say if a bill should come to your desk, that you will veto it, and you will fight any attempts to weaken our law, because those happen every year," Bysiewicz had said. "So you're not pro-choice, in my estimation, until you step up and say that."

Sen. Heather Somers of Groton, one of four Republicans to vote for the bill in the Senate, said after the ceremonial bill signing that whether Stefanowski would have signed it would be an issue.

"I think that's a fair question. His running mate supported it. Laura Devlin has always been somebody who is pro-choice, as far as I understand from her history," Somers said. "This is definitely going to be a campaign issue."

Somers, who spoke at length in favor of the bill during the Senate debate, said she was unsure if Stefanowski had read it. Devlin said last week she and Stefanowski had not discussed it.

Somers attended the bill-signing ceremony with her daughter, Hayley, and 2-year-old granddaughter, Stevie.

The campaign entered a new phase this week with Lamont and Stefanowski each formally becoming their party's endorsed candidate, setting the stage for a rematch of the 2018 race Lamont won by 3 percentage points.

Mark Pazniokas is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror.

CONNECTICUT

Foundation grants $825K to camps, job programs

By Ted Glanzer
Hartford Courant

School-weary children may look forward to the summer with glee, but their parents may not. Affordable child care often is difficult to find, particularly for low-income families.

Toward that end, the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has approved nearly $825,000 in grants to provide summer learning and job opportunities located in Greater Hartford to 7,600 school-age Hartford children and youth.

The grants support 36 programs — including reduced-fee or free camperships and enrichment, tutorial and counselor-in-training programs — that are open to Hartford children and run from four to eight weeks.

"We want to make sure these programs are going to reach the kids who most need them," Megan Burke, Hartford Foundation director of community impact grant-making, said in a news release. "We are specific that we are looking to serve Hartford kids, just because we have limited resources and that's where we see the greatest need."

Another priority, other than low- or no-cost availability to Hartford children, is that the programs cover the average working day, Burke said.

"We really prioritize those programs that have a before- and after-care program, that might make it possible to drop a kid off at 7 a.m. and even pick them up as late as 5 or 6 p.m.," Burke said. "Not everyone has the same working schedule — sometimes we get people who work nights and weekends, so we're not going to be able to accommodate everybody. But we are looking for programs that have a full schedule and have multiple weeks."

Finally, Burke said, the foundation looks for a variety of options for children and youth.

"Some kids like the sports camps; some kids like an arts camp; other kids like a mix of everything," she said. "In these situations, we really look to fund some programs that are outside of Hartford, but that provide transportation, so parents can make sure their kids are safely transported from their home or close to their home to somewhere like Auer Farm in Bloomfield, or somewhere else that is going to give them a new and different experience. And we want there to be choices for parents."

The programs that received grants are the following, with how much they received in parentheses: 4-H Education Center at Auerfarm ($36,000); Actup Theater ($30,000); Almada Lodge-Times Farm Camp Corporation (Channel 3 Kids Camp) ($26,500); American School for the Deaf ($22,000); Boys & Girls Club of Hartford ($45,000); Camp Courant ($45,000); Catholic Charities ($21,000); Center for Latino Progress: CTPRF ($40,000); Center for Leadership and Justice ($36,000); Connecticut Science Center ($12,000); ConnectiKids ($36,000); Ebony Horsewomen ($15,500); Futures, Inc. ($30,000); Girl Scouts of Connecticut ($36,000); Goodwin University ($10,000); Harc, Inc. ($20,000); Hartford City Mission ($10,000); Hartford Friendship Kids' Camp: Home ($16,500); Hartford Neighborhood Centers ($13,000); Hartford Public Library ($20,000); Hartford Stage ($25,000); Hartford Youth Scholars ($10,000); Hispanic Health Council ($15,000); Horizons at The Ethel Walker School ($20,000); Horizons Inc. ($32,000); Oak Hill ($15,000); Organized Parents Make a Difference ($40,000); Real Art Ways ($8,000); Sankofa Kuumba Cultural Arts Consortium ($10,000); Spectrum In Motion Dance Theater Ensemble ($17,750); The Salvation Army ($30,000); Trinity College ($12,600); Watkinson School ($11,500); West Indian Foundation ($12,000); YMCA of Metropolitan Hartford ($25,000); YWCA Hartford Region ($20,000).

More information about all of the programs is available at ctyouthdirectory.org.

Ted Glanzer can be reached at tglanzer@courant.com.



The headquarters of the Metropolitan District Commission, the regional water authority, at 555 Main St. in downtown Hartford. **KENNETH R. GOSSELIN/HARTFORD COURANT**

Metropolitan District urges customers to seek water bill aid

Courant staff report

HARTFORD — Metropolitan District customers with overdue and unpaid balances on their water bills are urged to apply for financial relief through the Connecticut Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program, according to the agency.

The Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program, a one-time water assistance grant program for eligible households, is administered by the state Department of Social Services and community action agency partners, according to the MDC.

The regional partner for the MDC is the Community Renewal Team Inc. Hartford area office and applications for the program will be accepted through June 30, according to the Department of Social Services, the MDC said in a statement.

Information on the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program, how to apply and eligibility is available at the DSS website, here.

MDC customers can contact the Community Renewal Team at 860-560-5800 or at crtct.org/ for details about the program.

"We want customers facing financial hardships to be aware that there are assistance programs available to them," Scott Jellison, MDC CEO, said in the statement.

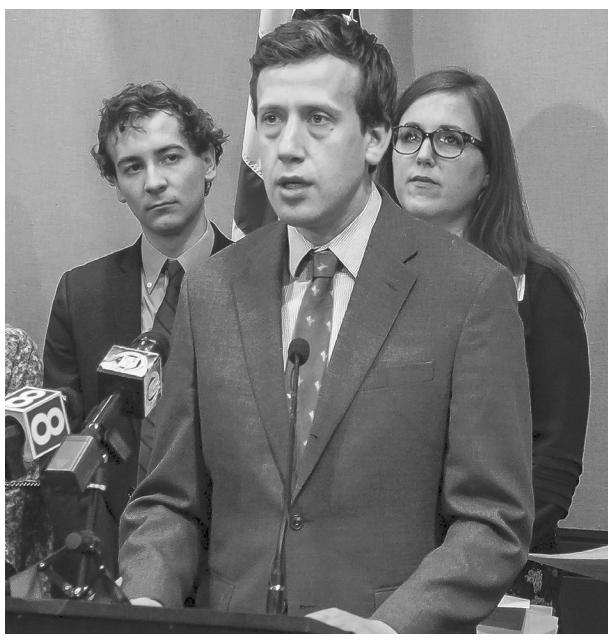
Financial assistance is available for customers in MDC towns of Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, Glastonbury, South Windsor, Farmington and East Granby.

MDC customers also can contact Operation Fuel to determine eligibility for water bill assistance at www.operationfuel.org/gethelp.

To locate an Operation Fuel bank, use the Online Fuel Bank Finder or call 211.

Lesser won't primary for secretary of the state nomination

By Mark Pazniokas
CT Mirror



State Sen. Matt Lesser, D-Middletown, speaks at a news conference in February.

State Sen. Matt Lesser of Middletown said he will seek reelection to the state Senate rather than pursue the Democratic nomination for secretary of the state in a primary against the convention winner, Rep. Stephanie Thomas of Norwalk.

Lesser finished second among the five candidates for secretary of the state at the Democratic State Convention on Saturday, one of three who cleared the 15% threshold to automatically qualify for a primary in August.

Thomas, a first-term lawmaker elected in 2020 to what had been a Republican seat in a district covering portions of Norwalk, Westport and Wilton, capitalized on solid backing from Fairfield County, plus a desire for gender diversity.

"The defining issue of the convention was, 'Do we need more gender diversity?' I had no answer for that, because we do," Lesser said. "It was a very real concern of a lot of delegates."

Democrats endorsed a statewide ticket with five men and two women, including three men and one woman seeking reelection: U.S. Senate Richard Blumenthal, Gov. Ned Lamont, Lt. Gov Susan Bysiewicz and Attorney General William Tong.

State Rep. Sean Scanlon was unopposed for comptroller, while Erick Russell and Thomas had floor flights for treasurer and secretary of the state.

Russell faces a primary from two women, Dita Bhargava of Greenwich and Karen Dubois-Walton of New Haven.

Three of the four Democrats who competed with Thomas for secretary of the state qualified for a primary: Lesser, Rep. Hilda Santiago of Meriden and Maritza Bond of New Haven.

Santiago could not be reached for comment, but Democrats say she is seriously considering seeking reelection to the House instead of a statewide primary. The nominating convention for her seat is next week.

Lesser faced a tighter deadline: The nominating convention for the 9th Senate District he represents is Tuesday night.

Shortage of baby formula empties shelves nationwide

Connecticut parents left scrambling

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant



Shelves typically stocked with baby formula sit mostly empty Tuesday at a store in San Antonio. Parents across the U.S. are scrambling to find baby formula because supply disruptions and a massive safety recall have swept many leading brands off store shelves. **ERIC GAY/AP**

In addition to all her other chores as the mother of a three-month-old girl, Kimberly Galiette regularly scours the Internet for baby formula.

It's the latest among hard-to-find items stretching back to the start of the pandemic and it's particularly irksome for already-stressed parents of newborns.

"We have enough for a month currently but I go back to work soon and formula hunting is a full-time job as you all know," Galiette said on a Facebook page established by Connecticut parents helping each other find baby formula.

Galiette, of Southington, has been on a 14-week maternity leave from her job as a manager of remote operations at ESPN and returns to work May 31. She said in an interview Wednesday she has enough to get through the middle of June.

Complicating her search is that her daughter requires an amino acid-based formula to avoid painful, bleeding rashes. Galiette said she puts holds on formula that she finds online, only to see them disappear as customers dive in on supplies that are limited by retailers.

She'll travel to several Walmart stores to buy formula, but the cans are small, lasting two or three days and cost $60 to $70 each. Out-of-state friends and an aunt on Long Island help by snagging the hard-to-find baby food.

Out-of-stock infant formula continues to climb as a result of supply chain disruptions and an industry recall in February.

Datasembly, which provides real-time product pricing, promotions and data, said baby formula "out-of-stock rates" are climbing. Data show that in April baby formula shortages hit 30% and jumped to 40% at the end of the month.

Out of stock formula was at 43% for the week ending May 8, Datasembly said.

"This issue has been compounded by supply chain challenges, product recalls and historic inflation, Chief Executive Officer Ben Reich said. "The category started to see stocking challenges beginning in July 2021, and the situation has continued to worsen into 2022."

Supply chain disruptions tied to the coronavirus pandemic have fueled shortages of a wide range of consumer goods ranging from toilet paper to cars. The lack of baby formula worsened in February after manufacturer Abbott issued a recall for products made at a Michigan plant and sold under the Similac, Alimentum and EleCare labels.

To cope with a spike in demand, Walgreens Boots Alliance and CVS Health Corp. said they limit customers to three baby formula products per purchase and Target has imposed some online product limits, but in an email Wednesday was not specific.

Abraham J. Khorasani, a pediatrician at Connecticut Children's, recommends that parents who can't find formula to ask their pediatrician to identify alternatives that are safe and provide the same nutrition.

He advised parents to avoid using home-made formulas or recipes using ingredients that have not been checked for safety. Nor should parents use less powder to make the formula last longer, he said. The child will not get nutrition, which could lead to health problems.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration said Tuesday the industry is working to maximize production, including stepping up processes and production schedules. Manufacturers also are setting priorities among product lines that are of greatest need, particularly specialty formulas, the agency said.

The FDA said Tuesday it is "not objecting to Abbott Nutrition releasing product to individuals needing urgent, life-sustaining supplies of certain specialty and metabolic formulas on a case-by-case basis that have been on hold at its Sturgis facility."

U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-3, criticized the FDA for acting too slowly in response to accusations by a whistleblower about practices at Abbott's Michigan plant. The FDA did not inspect the plant in person until the end of January, she said.

Abbott said its former employee was dismissed for serious violations of food safety policies. "After dismissal, the former employee, through their attorney, has made evolving, new and escalating allegations to multiple authorities," the company said.

It said it will thoroughly investigate any new allegations.

Meanwhile, Galiette said she's been able to find enough formula and hopes policymakers in Washington can prod the industry to untangle the supply chain knots.

"So far, I've been pretty lucky," she said.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

Singles Calendar

DANCES

SINGLES MAY DANCE
FRI. May 13th • 7-11 PM
OPEN KITCHEN 7-9 PM
$15 w/ad
$17 ADMISSION
• DJ/Cadillac Jack
• Dress to Impress
• Door Prizes
BRISTOL POLISH CLUB, 541 North Main Street, Bristol, CT
SOCIAL CONNECTIONS, LLC * 860-463-6906

To advertise your singles event please call or email Lori at 860-647-5363 • lpikul@courant.com

BERLIN HOUSING AUTHORITY, 250 KENSINGTON ROAD, KENSINGTON, CT 06037

Pre-applications for the Section 8 Elderly/ Disabled waiting list for Marjorie Moore Village will be accepted from May 9, 2022 to June 9, 2022. Must be either 62 years old or disabled with a max gross annual income of $39,450 (1 person) $45,100 (2 person). Contact (860) 828-4500 for an application. Completed pre-application must be post marked NO LATER than June 9, 2022. A lottery will be done after 30 days.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Gay Petruzzi-Ritter, AKA Gay P. Ritter (22-0139)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated May 9, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Rosemary L. Nolin, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Marybeth Petruzzi, 28 Hunters Ridge Dr., Westbrook, CT 06498
5/12/22 7208703

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Jean R. Johnson (22-0265)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated May 5, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Rosemary L. Nolin, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Charles G. Johnson, 502 Shelley Hill Rd., Stanfordville, NH 12581
Thomas W. Johnson, 539 Oak Tree Rd., Westminster, MC 21157

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:576 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT, 06776, 5/26/22 at 11:00 AM., Steven J. Claude RV431, containing 2006 Lincoln Navigator, Richard Robertson, unit # 192, containing 1 bedroom apartment, furniture , tables, the auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
5/12, 5/19/2022 7206785

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF John R. Baldoni, AKA John Baldoni, AKA John Richard Baldoni (22-0284)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated May 4, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Rosemary L. Nolin, Asisstant Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Nancy Baldoni, 5 Oak St., Old Saybrook, CT 06475

5/12/22 7207424

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LAURENCE V. NICHOLS, late of Portland, AKA LAURENCE VIRGIL NICHOLS, AKA LAWRENCE NICHOLS (22-00101)

The Hon. Jennifer L. Berkenstock, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Region #14 Probate Court, by decree dated April 21, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Debra C. Daniels, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Kelly Nichols Johnson
c/o RONALD WILHELM KUTZ
KUTZ LAW OFFICE LLC
262 MARLBOROUGH STREET, PO BOX 261
PORTLAND, CT 06480

LEGAL NOTICE
OLD SAYBROOK ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Old Saybrook will hold a public hearing at a Special Meeting on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Second Floor Conference Room located at 302 Main Street, Old Saybrook and via teleconference

Public Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/96174417686?pwd=Zk1kWmV2VlI3VVV1TUNtNEZRSEs0QT09
Meeting ID: 961 7441 7686
Meeting Passcode: 302302
Teleconference Dial-In: (929) 436-2866
One Tap Mobile: tel://9294362866,,96174417686# to hear the following:

21/22-25C 201 North Cove Associates, LLC seeks a variance of Par 10.7.1/10.7.2 (non-conformity enlargement/change); Par 58.2 & Par 58.6 (Gateway riparian buffer & structure setback/100' required/46' proposed); Par 58.7 (height Gateway Conservation Zone/35' permitted/37' 11" proposed); Par 23.4.2 (maximum number of stories/2 ½ allowed/3 proposed); and Par 23.5.1 (street line setback/35' required/7' to portico, 8' to sunroom, and 23' to roof overhang proposed) of the Zoning Regulations to permit the construction of a 525 s.f. detached garage, 934 s.f. addition, a 320 s.f. sunroom, a 450 s.f. pool and 380 s.f. detached deck at 201 North Cove Road, Map 32/Lot 011, Residence AA-2 District, Gateway Conservation Zone, Coastal Area Management Zone and VE 15/AE 11 Flood Zone.

At this hearing, interested persons may appear or submit written communication in advance.
Plans are available for review in the Land Use Department, 302 Main Street and at oldsaybrookct.gov/zoning-board-appeals
Old Saybrook Zoning Board of Appeals
Charles Gadon, Chairman
5/12& 5/19/22 7203855

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated: 578 Federal Road, Brookfield, CT 06804, May 26, 2022 at 11:00 AM. Craig Vandenbrulle unit 2427, furniture. The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
5/12, 5/19/2022 7207305

CORRECTED NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LAURA LEE LUTHER McCLURE, Late of East Haddam (22-00091)

The Hon. Jennifer L. Berkenstock, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Region # 14 Probate Court, by decree dated April 13, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Suzanne B. Emond, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Jay McClure, III
c/o PAUL M SMITH, BORNER, SMITH, ALEMAN, HERZOG & CERRONE, 124 WAUREGAN ROAD, DANIELSON, CT 06239

5/11/22 7208651

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF SHARON R. ROSE, late of Sarasota, Florida, AKA SHARON E. ROSE (22-00100)

The Hon. Jennifer L. Berkenstock, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Region # 14 Probate Court, by decree dated April 21, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Debra C. Daniels, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Gregory S. Rose
c/o BRIAN T MAHON, MAHON, QUINN & MAHON, P.C., 636 BROAD STREET, PO BOX 2420, MERIDEN, CT 06450

5/12/22 7207383

TOWN OF CROMWELL
INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES AGENCY
NOTICE OF DECISION

At its regular meeting on May 4, 2022 the Cromwell Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency met and took the following actions:

1. Voted to approved Application #22-01: Request to conduct activities within the Upland Review Area to allow for the construction of commercial building at 5 Berlin Road. Bantry Bay Ventures, LLC is the Applicant and Michael J. Cannata is the Owner.

John Whitney
Chairman, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency
Dated in Cromwell, Connecticut this 6th day of May 2022.
5/12/2022 7208094

TOWN OF ESSEX
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 18, 2022

MEETING ROOM A
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89352143046?pwd=cGpscEF0QmFPYjk4Y2Mvd09xUndBdz09
Meeting ID: 893 5214 3046, Passcode: 415734
Dial +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Town Meeting will be held in and for the Town of Essex, Connecticut, Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 6:55 pm in the Essex Town Hall, 29 West Avenue in said Essex.

TO ACT AND CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

1. To consent and approve an appropriation in an amount not to exceed $35,000 to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for the upgrades to the Town Hall Meeting Rooms A and B to include furniture, audio, and video equipment.

Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman
Stacia R. Libby, Selectman
Bruce M. Glowac, Selectman
5/12/2022 7209019

TOWN OF CROMWELL
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF DECISION

At its regular meeting on May 5, 2022 the Town of Cromwell Planning and Zoning Commission met and took the following actions:

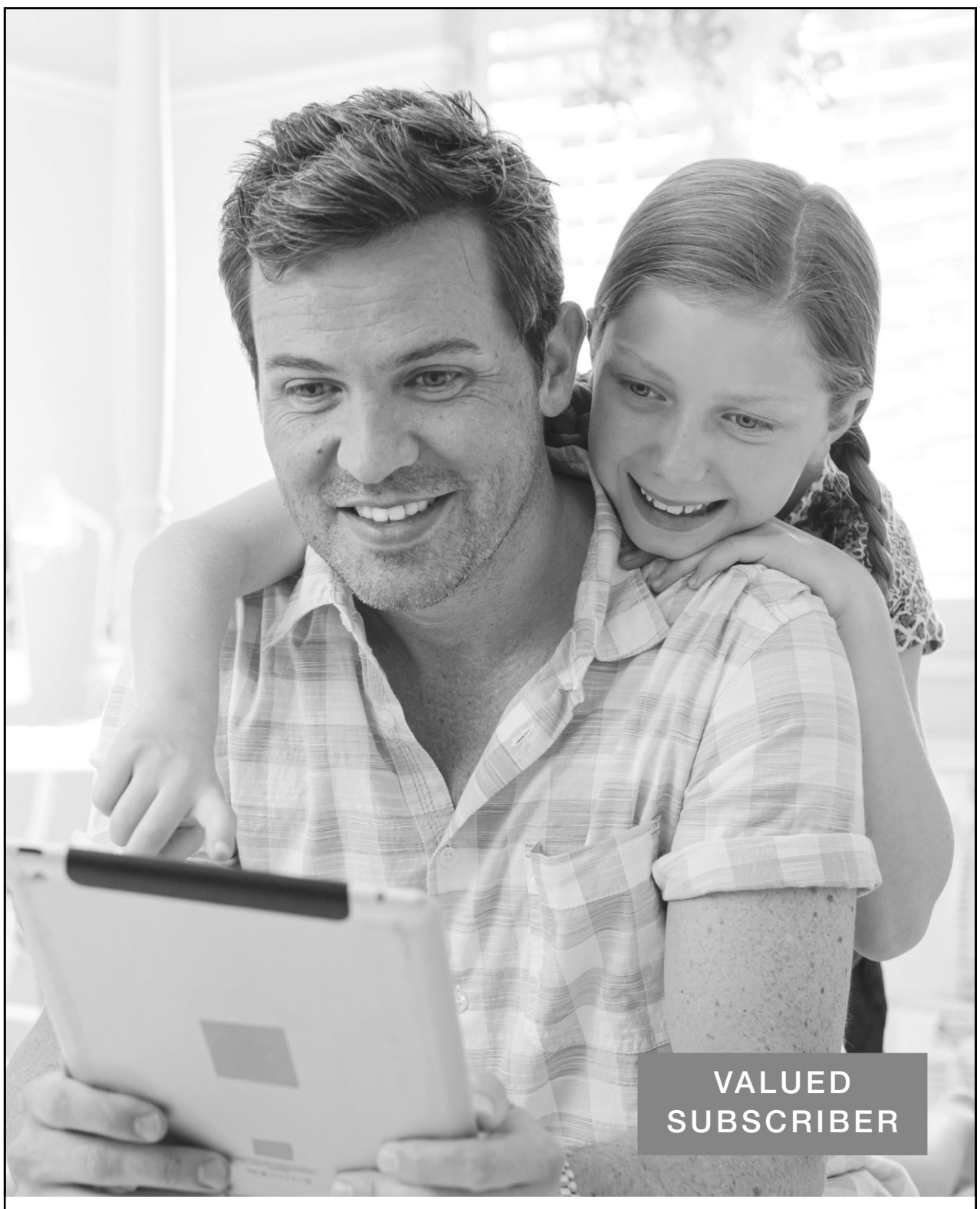
1. Voted to issue a positive report for the Section 8-24 Mandatory Referral for the Planning, design, acquisition, construction, furnishing and equipping of a new middle school and central offices at 6 Captain Mann Memorial Drive.

2. Voted to approve Application #22-09: Request to Amend the Zoning Map from Highway Business Zone District and Residential-40 Zone District to Mixed-Use Zone District at 100 Berlin Road and 15R Christian Hill Road. M360 Berlin Land Holdings, LLC is the Applicant and the Owner.

3. Voted to approve with conditions Application #22-06: Request to amend the Zoning Regulations to add Section 6.11 to allow for the retail sales of cannabis and cannabis related products in the Highway Business Zone District and to amend Section 3.5.C.4 to allow for the cultivation of cannabis in the Industrial Zone District. The Town of Cromwell Planning and Zoning Commission is the Applicant.

Alice Kelly
Chairman

Dated in Cromwell, Connecticut this the 6th day May of 2022.
5/12/2022 7207330



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BUSINESS

US inflation eases, but still hovers near 4-decade high

Consumer prices up 8.3% in April from a year ago, government report says

By Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Inflation eased slightly in April after months of relentless increases but remains near a four-decade high, imposing a continuing financial strain on American households.

Consumer prices jumped 8.3% last month from a year ago, the government said Wednesday. That was below the 8.5% year-over-year surge in March, which was the highest since 1981. On a monthly basis, prices rose 0.3% from March to April, the smallest rise in eight months.

Still, Wednesday's report contained some cautionary signs that inflation may be becoming more entrenched. Excluding the volatile food and energy categories, so-called core prices jumped twice as much from March to April as they did the previous month. The increases were fueled by spiking prices for airline tickets, hotel rooms and new cars. Apartment rental costs also kept rising.

Those price jumps "make clear that there is still a long way to go before inflation returns to more acceptable levels," said Eric Winograd, U.S. economist at asset manager AB.

Even if it moderates, inflation will likely remain high well into 2023, economists say, leaving many Americans burdened by price increases that have outpaced pay raises. Especially hurt are lower-income and Black and Hispanic families, who on average spend a greater proportion of their incomes on gas, food and rent.

Wednesday's report also underscored the challenges for the Federal Reserve and White House in their struggles to tame inflation.

In April, a fallback in gas prices helped slow overall inflation. Nationally, average prices for a gallon of gas fell to as low as $4.10 in April, according to AAA, after having spiked to $4.32 in March. But since then, gas prices have surged to a record $4.40 a gallon.

Grocery prices, too, are still soaring, in part because Russia's invasion of Ukraine has heightened the cost of wheat and other grains. Food prices rose 1% from March to April and nearly 11% from a year ago. That year-over-year increase is the biggest since 1980.

There are, though, signs that supply chains are improving for some goods. Wednesday's report showed that prices for appliances and clothing both fell 0.8%, while the cost of used cars dropped 0.4%, the third straight month of decline. Used cars and other goods drove much of the initial inflation spike last year as Americans stepped up spending after vaccines became widespread.

Wednesday's figures will keep the Federal Reserve on track to implement what may become its fastest series of interest rate increases in 33 years, economists said. Last week, the central bank raised its benchmark short-term rate by a half-point, its steepest increase in two decades.

The Fed under Chair Jerome Powell is seeking to pull off the notoriously difficult — and risky — task of cooling the economy enough to slow inflation without causing a recession.



Francine Yoon, a food scientist at Ajinomoto Health and Nutrition NA in Itasca, Ill., has been working mostly in person since the pandemic. She says the company, whose reception area is pictured here, is making efforts to reduce workers' anxieties. **AJINOMOTO HEALTH & NUTRITION**

A rocky return to office life

Poll: Employees say things are better in general at job sites, but levels of stress are also higher

By Anne D'Innocenzio
Associated Press

NEW YORK — As more companies mandate a return to the office, workers must readjust to pre-pandemic rituals like long commutes, juggling child care and physically interacting with colleagues.

But such routines have become more difficult two years later. Spending more time with your colleagues could increase exposure to the coronavirus, for example, while inflation has increased costs for lunch and commuting.

Among workers who were remote and have gone back at least one day a week in-person, more say things in general have gotten better than worse and that they've been more productive rather than less, an April poll from Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research shows. But the level of stress for these workers is elevated.

Overall, among employed adults, the April AP-NORC poll shows 16% say they work remotely, 13% work both remotely and in person and 72% say they work only in person.

Thirty-nine percent of employees who had worked at home but have returned to the office say the way things are going generally has become better since returning in person to the workplace, while 23% say things have become worse; 38% say things have stayed the same. Forty-five percent say the amount of work getting done has improved, while 18% say it's worsened.

But 41% of returned workers say the amount of stress they experience has worsened; 22% say it has become better and 37% say it hasn't changed.

Even workers who have been in person throughout the pandemic are more negative than positive about the way the pandemic has impacted their work lives. Thirty-five percent say the way things are going in general has gotten worse, while 20% say it's gotten better. Fifty percent say their stress has worsened, while just 11% say it's gotten better; 39% say there's no difference.

At least half of in-person workers say balancing responsibilities, potential COVID-19 exposure at work, their commute and social interaction are sources of stress. But fewer than a third call these "major" sources of stress.

People with children were more likely to report their return was having an adverse effect, some of it stemming from concerns about keeping their families safe from COVID-19 and maintaining a better work-life balance. Most said it could help alleviate stress if their employer provided more flexible work options and workplace safety precautions from the virus.

But for some workers, a physical return — in any form — will be hard to navigate.

"A lot of people have gotten accustomed to working from home. It's been two years," said Jessica Edwards, national director of strategic alliances and development at the National Alliance on Mental Illness, a U.S.-based advocacy group. "For companies, it's all about prioritizing mental health and being communicative about it."

Estimates show that untreated mental illness may cost companies up to $300 billion annually, largely due to impacts on productivity, absenteeism, and increases in medical and disability expenses, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Francine Yoon, a food scientist at Ajinomoto Health and Nutrition North America, in Itasca, Illinois, has been working mostly in person since the pandemic, including at her current job that she started last fall.

Yoon, 24, said her company has helped to ease anxiety by doing things like creating huddle rooms to create more distance for those experiencing any form of anxiety about being near colleagues.

But moving in last year with her parents, both in their early 60s, has led to some heightened level of anxiety because she's worried about passing on the virus to them.

"When cases are low, I feel comfortable and confident that I am OK and that I will be OK," she said. 'When surges occur, I can't help but become cautious."

UK threatens EU with rewrite of Brexit deal

By Jill Lawless
Associated Press

LONDON — Britain and the European Union were once again at loggerheads over Brexit on Wednesday, after the U.K. government ramped up threats to scrap parts of its trade treaty with the bloc, saying the rules are blocking the formation of a new government in Northern Ireland.

Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said the government would "not shy away from taking action" if it can't reach agreement with the bloc.

The EU warned that renegotiating the legally binding agreement "is not an option."

Arrangements for Northern Ireland — the only part of the U.K. that shares a border with an EU nation — have been the thorniest subject of contention in the U.K.'s divorce from the 27-nation bloc, which became final at the end of 2020.

A deal keeps the Irish border free of customs posts and other checks, because an open border is a key pillar of the peace process that ended decades of violence in Northern Ireland. Instead, there are checks on some goods entering Northern Ireland from the rest of the U.K.

The arrangement is opposed by many of Northern Ireland's British unionists, who say the new checks have created a barrier with the rest of the U.K. that undermines their British identity. The Democratic Unionist Party, which came second in last week's Northern Ireland Assembly election, is refusing to help form a government until the arrangements, known as the Northern Ireland Protocol, are substantially changed or scrapped.

Under Northern Ireland's power-sharing rules, a government can't be formed without the support of both the main unionist and nationalist parties. Sinn Fein won the most seats last week, the first time a party that seeks to unite Northern Ireland with the republic has topped the voting.

Britain's Conservative government has accused the bloc of being needlessly "purist" in its approach to the rules, while the EU says Britain is failing to honor a legally binding deal that Prime Minister Boris Johnson agreed to.

EU to relax mask rules at airports, on planes

By Frank Jordans
Associated Press

BERLIN — The European Union will no longer recommend medical masks be worn at airports and on planes starting next week amid the easing of coronavirus restrictions across the bloc, though member states can still require them, officials said Wednesday.

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency said it hoped the joint decision, made with the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control, would mark "a big step forward in the normalization of air travel" for passengers and crews.

The new guideline "takes account of the latest developments in the pandemic, in particular the levels of vaccination and naturally acquired immunity, and the accompanying lifting of restrictions in a growing number of European countries," the two agencies said in a joint statement.

"Passengers should however behave responsibly and respect the choices of others around them," EASA Executive Director Patrick Ky said. "And a passenger who is coughing and sneezing should strongly consider wearing a face mask, for the reassurance of those seated nearby."

While the new recommendations scheduled take effect Monday, rules for masks may still vary by airline beyond that day if carriers fly to or from destinations where the rules are different.

Germany's Health Ministry said it will continue to require all passengers over the age of 6 to wear medical masks on flights to, from or within the country.

The European Center for Disease Prevention and Control said washing hands and social distancing should still be practiced, but airport operators are advised not to impose distancing requirements if these are likely to lead to a bottleneck.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Pacts for Google, EU news outlets

LONDON — Google said Wednesday that it struck licensing deals with 300 news publishers in Europe in its latest effort to comply with a recently introduced European Union copyright law.

The tech giant signed the agreements with national, local and specialist news publications in Germany, Hungary, France, Austria, the Netherlands and Ireland.

It didn't disclose how much it's paying or give names of the news outlets.

The new law allows search engines like Google to link to and use snippets of news content, while giving publishers new rights when extended previews are used online. It doesn't, however, specify where the line between the two lies. The pacts are aimed at avoiding lawsuits over that distinction.

House approves aides unionizing

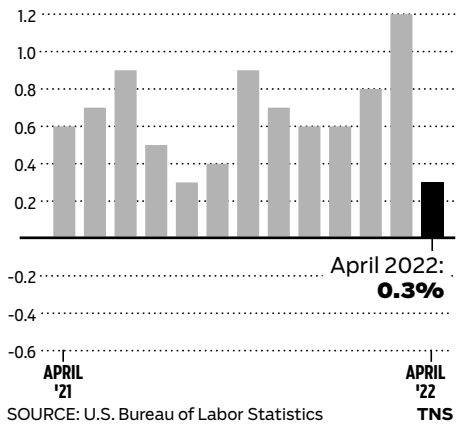
WASHINGTON — The House approved a resolution Tuesday that will pave the way for letting congressional staff join a union and engage in collective bargaining, a move that proponents say would enhance the ability of aides from low-and-middle-income families to make ends meet in a region with steep housing costs.

Rep. Andy Levin, D-Mich., sponsored the resolution. He said that if workers have more of a say about working conditions and pay, it will lead to lower turnover and make Congress a more effective institution.

Lawmakers set the pay for their aides. The money comes from an allowance made available to each member to cover rent, equipment, salary and other expenses incurred in performing their official duties.

Consumer Price Index
In April, the consumer price index increased 0.3 percent.

CPI ONE-MONTH PERCENT CHANGE
Seasonally adjusted



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics TNS



A 2019 survey indicates barely more than half of Americans over 55 have a will. **COURTNEYK**

Preparing wills, estate plans spares survivors added grief

By Lauren Lindstrom
The Charlotte Observer

Amid the grief of losing a loved one, families are dealt additional burdens when the deceased did not leave behind a will or estate plan.

Without one, it can open the door to family disputes or significant court costs to settle an estate.

But only a little more than half of Americans over 55 have a will, according to a 2019 survey by Merrill Lynch.

Collette Davis, an estate planning and probate attorney in Charlotte, North Carolina, tells her clients it's critical to put their wishes in writing so that health care and financial decisions are handled responsibly at the end of their life.

"This is the best thing they could do to help their family and eliminate any kind of discord down the road," she said.

It can help with the most routine aspects of settling someone's affairs or provide additional protection for more rare occurrences.

Davis laid out three key steps to take when estate planning, though others may be necessary for someone's specific financial, health or family situation.

She recommends that everyone:

Create a living trust: A living trust lays out plans for someone while they are still alive and after death, including instructions for medical care and how to divide up all assets, including property, businesses and investments.

Write a will: While most of the directives should be covered in the living trust, Davis said, writing a will can serve as a back-up document to lay out how property and other assets should be divided.

Handwritten wills: Davis said a will that is entirely in someone's own handwriting — not anyone else's — and is signed and dated can be valid. However, it can be disputed in court if there are questions about its authenticity.

Health care and financial powers of attorney: This person or people will make decisions about your medical decisions and finances if you are incapacitated. The North Carolina Secretary of State offers a form online to establish a health care power of attorney.

More decisions: AARP offers a checklist outlining other decisions to make, including establishing guardians for minor children and confirming beneficiaries on insurance policies and retirement plans.

Without a plan, families risk losing hard-earned wealth, said Alesha Brown, a Charlotte attorney whose nonprofit For the Struggle provides legal assistance for older residents in the city's historically Black neighborhoods.

This is important for family property, she said, especially in rapidly gentrifying areas where families can be taken advantage of without estate plans in place.

Many want to know: "How do we protect Mom and Dad's property?" Brown said. "We see a lot of folks who are selling their property for a ridiculously low amount because they're getting cash offers, not even realizing their home is worth sometimes two to three times more."

Ukraine faces cumbersome path to get oligarchs' assets

By Matthew Goldstein
The New York Times



The Justice Department said Viktor Vekselberg purchased his 255-foot yacht with laundered funds. **FRANCISCO UBILLA/AP**

The U.S. government was so pleased with its swift seizure of a Russian oligarch's 255-foot yacht on the Mediterranean island of Majorca last month that it posted a video on YouTube of the moment FBI agents and Spanish authorities clambered up the gangplank.

The $90 million yacht owned by Viktor Vekselberg, called the Tango, was the government's first big prize in a campaign against billionaires with close ties to the Kremlin.

Tango is just a sliver of the $1 billion in yachts, planes and artwork — not to mention hundreds of millions in cash — that the United States has identified as belonging to wealthy allies of Russian President Vladimir Putin since the invasion of Ukraine. U.S. Magistrate Judge Zia Faruqui, who approved the seizure, called the pursuit of the yacht by a new Justice Department team called Task Force KleptoCapture "just the beginning of the reckoning that awaits those who would facilitate Putin's atrocities."

The reckoning may take awhile.

Seizing assets, whether a yacht or a bank account, is the easy part. To permanently confiscate them, the government must usually navigate a potentially cumbersome process known as civil forfeiture, which requires proving to a judge that the assets were obtained from the proceeds of a crime or through money laundering. Only then does the government actually own the assets and have the power to liquidate them.

All that can take years, especially if the former owner is inclined to fight the forfeiture action in court.

Hoping to speed things up — and quickly get the proceeds from seized assets turned over to the Ukrainian government — the White House announced a plan last week that would make it easier for U.S. authorities to go after some oligarch assets through an administrative procedure led by the Treasury Department. Although it has not provided details of its plan, administration officials said the new procedure will provide adequate due process and allow for an "expedited" review by a federal court.

The White House proposal would significantly change the way the government handles high-dollar asset seizures. Generally, administrative forfeiture is used in lower-profile cases, intended for assets worth $500,000 or less. Such efforts are not really designed for luxury homes or massive yachts, let alone the huge sums of money that wealthy Russians are believed to have stashed away in U.S. bank accounts or invested with hedge funds and private equity firms.

"The idea of a yacht or jet valued in the hundreds of millions seized and liquidated administratively is new territory," said Franklin Monsour, a former federal prosecutor and a white-collar defense lawyer with Orrick in New York City.

Monsour said the administration and Congress may be banking that many Russian oligarchs will not muster a legal challenge to a new, expedited process because that would risk subjecting themselves to U.S. jurisdiction.

"It will likely be without challenge," he said. "And the government knows that."

Even if prosecutors are forced to proceed in some cases through the more typical civil forfeiture process, the litigation might go faster than normal for that same reason, Monsour said.

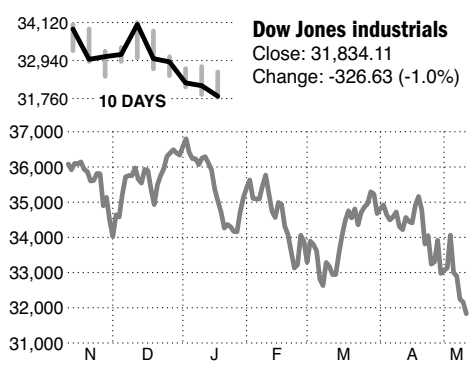
The more pricey the assets that the government seizes, the more reason it has to speed up the forfeiture process: Luxury property must be properly maintained — otherwise, their value will drop before they can be sold off to someone else in the small pool of people who can afford them.

But authorities in the U.S. are looking to do more than just strip oligarchs of their prized possessions. Elizabeth Rosenberg, assistant secretary for terrorist financing and financial crimes at Treasury, said one goal is to "undermine the financial architecture that Russia uses to move money."

MARKET RUNDOWN

Thursday, May 12, 2022

DOW **31,834.11** -326.63 ▼
10-YR T-BOND **2.91%** -.08 ▼
GOLD **$1,852.60** +12.70 ▲



Dow Jones industrials
Close: 31,834.11
Change: -326.63 (-1.0%)

Commodities

FUELS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	105.71	99.76	+40.55%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	7.64	7.39	+104.83%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	3.69	3.54	+65.40%
METALS	**CLOSE**	**PREV.**	**YTD**
Gold (oz)	1,852.60	1,839.90	+1.37%
Silver (oz)	21.55	21.39	-7.62%

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

Foreign Exchange

	ForEx in U.S. $	U.S. $ in ForEx
Britain	1.2269	.8150
Canada	.7703	1.2982
China	.1488	6.7217
Euro	1.0531	.9496
Japan	.007706	129.77
Mexico	.049324	20.2741

Money Rates

	CLOSE	PREV. WK.
Prime rate	4.00	3.50
3-mo. T-Bill	0.90	0.91
6-mo. T-Bill	1.43	1.44
5-yr T-Note	2.91	3.01
10-yr T-Note	2.91	2.96
30-yr T-Bond	3.04	3.01

Domestic Indexes

	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	31,834.11	-326.63	-12.40%
DOW Trans.	14,291.09	-171.19	-13.27%
DOW Util.	991.15	+6.92	+1.06%
NYSE Comp.	14,902.14	-123.60	-13.18%
Nasdaq Comp.	11,364.24	-373.44	-27.36%
S&P 500	3,935.18	-65.87	-17.44%
S&P 400	2,348.01	-41.57	-17.38%
Wilshire 5000	38,889.93	-744.23	-19.75%
Russell 2000	1,718.14	-43.65	-23.48%

Global Markets

	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt	13,828.64	+293.90	+2.17%	-12.94%
London	7,347.66	+104.44	+1.44%	-.50%
Hong Kong	19,824.57	+190.88	+.97%	-15.27%
Nikkei	26,213.64	+46.54	+.18%	-8.95%

Stocks of Local Interest

STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD %CHG
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	10.37	-1.47	-61.9
AT&T Inc (T)	19.43	+.07	-21.0
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	87.92	-.81	-38.9
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	15.97	-.60	-11.1
Amphenol Corp (APH)	68.37	-.67	-21.8
Apple Inc (AAPL)	146.50	-8.01	-17.5
Armstrong Flooring (AFI)	.49	+.35	-75.3
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	43.61	-.51	-12.6
Bank of America (BAC)	35.57	-.19	-20.0
Barnes Group (B)	31.29	-.95	-32.8
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	2072.15	+27.17	-13.6
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	76.15	-.14	+22.1
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	97.99	-.17	-5.0
Carnival Corp (CCL)	13.55	-.64	-32.7
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	37.59	-.50	-30.7
Charter Communic (CHTR)	448.35	-19.88	-31.2
Cigna Corp (CI)	260.20	-.45	+13.3
Coinbase Global Inc (COIN)	53.72	-19.27	-78.7
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	39.84	-.46	-20.8
Desktop Metal (DM)	1.44	+.11	-70.9
DiDi Global Inc (DIDI)	1.53	-.04	-69.3
Disney (DIS)	105.21	-2.47	-32.1
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	101.17	-1.35	-20.6
Ethan Allen (ETD)	23.53	-.67	-10.5
Eversource Energy (ES)	89.29	+.16	-1.9
Exicure Inc (XCUR)	.11	+.01	-43.6
Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM)	86.79	+1.77	+41.8
Ford Motor (F)	12.83	-.52	-38.2
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	3.03	-.32	-41.8
Gen Dynamics (GD)	226.94	-2.36	+8.9
Gen Electric (GE)	72.44	-.87	-23.3
Grab Holdings Ltd A (GRAB)	2.51	-.24	-64.8
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	69.80	-.22	+1.1
Honeywell Intl (HON)	192.02	-2.75	-7.9
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	12.02	-.08	-24.5
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	19.41	-.35	-23.3
Intel Corp (INTC)	42.83	-1.18	-16.8
Kaman (KAMN)	32.95	-.93	-23.6
Keycorp (KEY)	18.58	-.34	-19.7
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	53.51	-1.58	-21.6
Lucid Group Inc (LCID)	13.86	-2.09	-63.6
M&T Bank (MTB)	164.55	-1.28	+7.1
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	35.07	-1.13	-21.9
MetLife Inc (MET)	64.12	-.69	+2.6
Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	260.55	-8.95	-22.5

STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD %CHG
Mullen Automotive (MULN)	.80	-.15	-84.7
Novartis AG (NVS)	84.04	-.35	-3.9
Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	166.30	-9.65	-43.5
Occid Petl (OXY)	60.10	+.69	+107.3
Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	72.90	+.13	-16.3
Palantir Technol (PLTR)	6.71	-.58	-63.2
Pfizer Inc (PFE)	49.45	-.04	-16.3
Pitney Bowes (PBI)	4.42	-.13	-33.3
Plug Power Inc (PLUG)	13.45	-2.26	-52.4
Prudential Fncl (PRU)	103.05	-1.20	-4.8
Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	68.95	+.62	+3.3
Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	91.00	-.69	+5.7
Redbox Entertainmnt (RDBX)	3.20	-2.40	-56.8
Regulus Therapeutics (RGLS)	.27	+.09	-15.6
Rivian Automotive A (RIVN)	20.60	-2.19	-80.1
Rogers Corp (ROG)	270.93	-1.07	-.8
Roblox Corp (RBLX)	23.97	+.78	-76.8
SS&C Technlogies (SSNC)	59.34	-.94	-27.6
Snap Inc A (SNAP)	21.84	-1.05	-53.6
SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	5.49	+.24	-65.3
Square Inc (SQ)	71.22	-13.17	-55.9
Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	118.71	-2.78	-37.1
Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)	22.53	-.17	-7.3
Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.37	-.03	-35.8
Switch Inc (SWCH)	33.54	+2.79	+17.1
Terex Corp (TEX)	32.15	-.83	-26.8
Tonix Pharma (TNXP)	.12	-.02	-67.9
Travelers Cos (TRV)	172.38	-.61	+10.2
Uber Technologies (UBER)	22.57	-1.10	-46.2
United Rentals (URI)	280.82	-12.87	-15.5
UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	486.15	-1.86	-3.2
Unity Software Inc (U)	30.30	-17.83	-78.8
Veru Inc (VERU)	8.16	+.37	+38.5
Virtus Invest (VRTS)	165.43	-5.98	-44.3
Voya Financial (VOYA)	62.10	-.79	-6.3
Vroom Inc (VRM)	1.34	-.09	-87.6
Webster Financial (WBS)	45.69	-.83	-18.2
White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1129.93	+5.19	+11.4
World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	57.01	-.91	+15.5
XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	51.56	-1.39	-33.4
Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	16.85	-.50	-25.6
Zynga Inc (ZNGA)	7.66	+.08	+19.7



LIVING
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DADU SHIN/THE NEW YORK TIMES

NO WAY TO SAY GOODBYE

When author's mom got COVID-19, she learned what we lose over text

By Jennifer Spitzer
The New York Times

My mother wasn't a texter. When she first bought an iPhone in 2019, her texts came out garbled, with baffling spaces between words. She told me repeatedly that the format eluded her. Could I please call her instead, for God's sake!

In the years leading up to the pandemic, she called me often, sometimes daily. My parents were in Westchester, New York, and I am upstate, in Ithaca. She didn't want to lose touch. If I sent her to voicemail, she left a message, asking after my chronic tooth pain or my son's soccer games, reporting her own ups and downs with health. She was still working full-time as a psychotherapist but struggled with ailments common to later life.

I called her back intermittently, often responding with text messages instead, which she viewed as rejections — so terse and noncommittal, so different from the long, meandering conversations she craved.

But when my mother was hospitalized in April 2020 with COVID-19, texting became a lifeline, a strange digital umbilicus connecting us across a nontraversable space. This was the way for so many of us, losing our loved ones at a distance. There was no in-person conversation, no holding her hand.

March 2020: I sit on a beach in Miami, where my husband and I speak as if we are on the eve of war. I build sand mermaids with my 6-year-old son while reading dispatches from Italy, the new epicenter of the pandemic, on my phone. The churches there are filling with coffins. I find a scientific article that suggests that 1 out of 10 people older than 70 will die of this new virus.

From my sinking place in the sand I text my mother in New York: "Please don't leave the house, I implore her. If you leave the house, you will die!"

Two weeks later, my father calls to say that my mother has fractured her hip. She is in the hospital undergoing surgery to repair it. My father sounds wrung out. "I could hear her screaming," he says. My mother is 77 and recovering from lung cancer treatment. She is already vulnerable, and a broken hip sounds the alarm on so many frequencies: the risk of health complications, the vulnerability to COVID-19, the adjacency to death.

After the surgery, the doctors insist that she will need round-the-clock attention, plus physical and occupational therapy. She is transferred to a nursing home 5 minutes from my parents' house. She will have to be alone — no outside visitors — but at least she'll be safe. My mother tells me over FaceTime that the facility won't let her wash her hands. She keeps a tiny bottle of hand sanitizer under her pillow as if it were contraband and speaks in hushed tones about the muffled coughs she hears through the walls.

The nursing home representative assures me that they have no cases of COVID-19 and are taking all necessary precautions, but I am awash in unease.

When the virus reaches my mother's nursing home, they wake her at midnight to test her. She is negative, and we bring her home, but relief is fleeting. The next afternoon she falls ill. I have been reading COVID-19 diaries on the internet and recognize its signature — the dry cough that emerges out of nowhere, the low-grade fever that suddenly spikes. An ambulance takes her to the emergency room, where she texts me a fevered slurry of words: "tirrezxctired."

When she tests positive that night, I feel my body turn to lead, as if it might fall through the floor. No: as if the floor no longer exists.

There is no helplessness exactly like watching your mother struggle for breath over a video call, knowing that you cannot approach the scene of her distress.

The phone can't satisfy the longing for touch and physical proximity. It's not a surrogate for presence. Trying to keep vigil through a screen only reminds me that I am not there. I am siloed in my living room four hours from my parents, who are away from each other.

My father falls ill with COVID-19 five days after my mother's diagnosis. I want to drive down to stay with him, but I'm afraid that if I get sick, I won't be able to help anyone. One day on the phone, my father is so breathless that he cannot finish a phrase. I send him to the same hospital as my mother, who has no idea he is there. When a nurse asks for my father's do-not-resuscitate request, I think: I will be orphaned soon.

Six days into my mother's illness, she refuses audio and video calls. They make it too hard for her to breathe, and I sense that she doesn't want me to see her this way. Instead, she contacts me through the most impersonal medium, the one she so disliked.

The phone can't satisfy the longing for touch and physical proximity. It's not a surrogate for presence. Trying to keep vigil through a screen only reminds me that I am not there. I am siloed in my living room four hours from my parents, who are away from each other.

The text messages she sends me feel alien, staccato in their efficiency:

"Please take the dog."

"How is dad?"

"This is hard."

We all use texting to connect while also holding people at arm's length. Before the pandemic, my mother made it clear that my text messages did not deliver the intimacy she craved. When days went by without a phone call from me, my mom sent blank emails with short phrases in the subject line to call me out for my silence, and my avoidant emotional style: Alien abduction? Into thin air?

My mother is in an oxygen mask; my mother is in an oxygen tent; my mother is drowning.

She has bilateral pneumonia and acute respiratory distress. The doctors explain her inflammation to me as a "cytokine storm" that is ravaging her body.

Her decline is steep, only 17 days between diagnosis and death. Looking back at our messages over those 17 days, I am struck by a reversal. I am the one reaching out to her, with long, frequent texts that attempt to draw out time:

"I want to be with you, holding your hand."

"I know that there's hope, I'm praying so hard."

"Mom, I miss you. Are you there?"

My mother's responses, on the other hand, contract. Our final exchanges are like an aperture closing, the last window through which I can view her.

"I know," she writes at one point, "so hard."

My dad is discharged to struggle at home, and I nurse him through an iPad, keeping his face near mine as we sleep so I can listen to his breathing. When my mother dies, I don't tell him at first, fearing he will follow. But as the days pass, his breath deepens, and the fevers that gripped his body begin to recede, and I say the words. He has been expecting them, but still his face breaks in a way I hadn't known a face could.

I save my mother's final texts, but they hold nothing of her voice: the scratchy Jewish Bronx accent, the warmth, the descent of her tone when she knew our call had to end, so full of longing and love: "OK, darling ... talk to you soon."

Scientists get close to genetic cause of lupus

HealthDay News

There is no cure for lupus yet, but new genetic research may at least point to new treatments for the chronic disease.

An international team of researchers has identified a gene mutation linked with lupus. An autoimmune disease, lupus causes organ and joint inflammation, fatigue and a number of other problems. In severe cases, symptoms can be debilitating and complications can be fatal.

Current treatments focus on suppressing the immune system to ease symptoms.

"It has been a huge challenge to find effective treatments for lupus, and the immune-suppressors currently being used can have serious side effects and leave patients more susceptible to infection. There has only been a single new treatment approved by the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration] in about the last 60 years," said study co-author Carola Vinuesa, co-director of the China Australia Centre for Personalised Immunology.

"This is the first time a TLR7 mutation has been shown to cause lupus, providing clear evidence of one way this disease can arise," Vinuesa added.

In this study, scientists conducted whole genome sequencing on the DNA of a girl who was diagnosed with severe lupus when she was 7 years old. Such a severe case with early onset of symptoms is rare and indicates a single genetic cause, they explained.

The researchers found that the girl had a single-point mutation in the TLR7 gene, which senses viral RNA. They then identified other cases of lupus where this gene was mutated.

To confirm that the mutation causes lupus, the scientists said they introduced it into mice. The rodents then developed the disease.

"While it may only be a small number of people with lupus who have variants in TLR7 itself, we do know that many patients have signs of overactivity in the TLR7 pathway. By confirming a causal link between the gene mutation and the disease, we can start to search for more effective treatments," said study co-author Nan Shen, co-director of CACPI.

The findings were published in the journal Nature.



DREAMSTIME

CELEBRITIES

Video of Williams prompts outrage

From new services

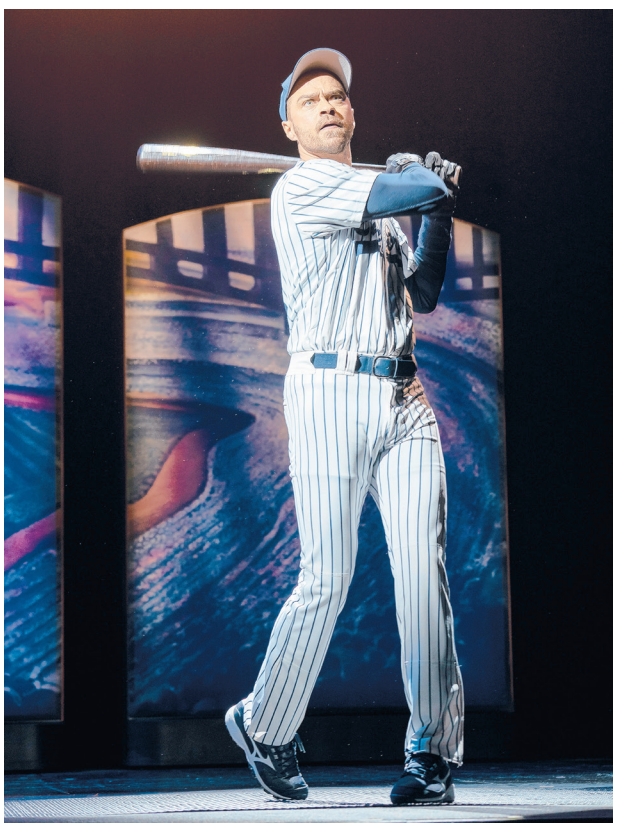
Video of a naked Jesse Williams captured onstage in a shower scene from a Broadway play has been posted online, prompting an outcry from the producers and the union that represents actors and stage managers.

"We condemn in the strongest possible terms the creation and distribution of photographs and videos of our members during a nude scene," said Kate Shindle, president of Actors' Equity Association. "Whoever did this knew not only that they were filming actors without their consent, but also that they were explicitly violating the theater's prohibition on recording and distribution."

Williams is starring in a revival of "Take Me Out," Richard Greenberg's exploration of what happens when a Major League Baseball superstar comes out as gay, tracing the way it unsettles the team and unleashes toxic prejudices. Williams earned a Tony Award nomination Monday for playing the superstar.

Second Stage Theater has been using Yondr pouches to protect the actors. Audience members arriving at the theater surrender their phones, which are then put in the locked pouches until the end of the show.

"Taking naked pictures of anyone without their consent is highly objectionable and can have severe legal consequences," Second Stage said. "... We are actively pursuing takedown requests and ask that no one participates in the distribution of these images."



Jesse Williams during a performance of the Broadway revival of "Take Me Out" in New York. JOAN MARCUS/POLK & CO.

Winkler memoir due in 2024: Henry Winkler is writing a memoir. Celadon Books announced Wednesday that it has a deal with the actor to tell his life story. The memoir, currently untitled, is scheduled for 2024.

Winkler, 76, became famous in the 1970s as "The Fonz" on the sitcom "Happy Days" and has worked steadily ever since, with hundreds of TV and movie credits.

"I am both excited and nervous to contemplate writing a memoir, because it's hard to remember what happened the day before yesterday. But here I go!" Winkler said in a statement.

Cromwell glues hand to Starbucks counter in protest: Actor James Cromwell pasted his hand to a Manhattan Starbucks counter in New York City on Tuesday to protest the chain's extra charge for plant-based milk.

The Oscar nominee, 82, who also portrays Uncle Ewan on "Succession," took part in the protest organized by the animal rights group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Cromwell sat on the Starbucks counter wearing a "Free the Animals" T-shirt and read a statement denouncing the surcharge for vegan milk alternatives. He glued his hand to the counter, then later used a knife to scrape it off. Police said there were no arrests.

Starbucks outlets in the United States charge 50 cents to a dollar more for drinks made with plant-based milks.

May 12 birthdays: Composer Burt Bacharach is 94. Musician Guy Davis is 70. Singer Kix Brooks is 67. Drummer Eric Singer is 64. Actor Emilio Estevez is 60. Actor April Grace is 60. Actor Stephen Baldwin is 56. Actor Kim Fields is 53. Actor Jason Biggs is 44. Actor Rami Malik is 41. Actor Emily VanCamp is 36.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Single mother wrestles with tough choices

Dear Amy: I am a 32-year-old woman with a 6-year-old son.

I am in a relationship with "Larry," who is 48. He is not my child's father.

Before meeting Larry, I lived alone and raised my son by myself.

After losing my job, my son and I moved in with my folks. We were financially dependent on them. Over the course of a year I looked for work, but couldn't find a decent-paying job that conformed with my son's school hours.

I felt I became a burden to my parents financially. They scrambled to get my son from school while I was at work.

During that time, I was dating Larry and decided to move in with him.

I knew it was a mistake fairly quickly. We just aren't compatible.

Now I'm working at a good job, and I know I can afford to be on my own. I hate to seem selfish and leave, but I'm not happy.

I know being on my own would be best for me and my child. The only thing is that I would need my family to help with some child care. At times, it seems my family gets tired of helping out.

I know that if I stay with Larry, he will help with my son's school drop-off and pickup, and with other miscellaneous things.

Do I leave Larry, suck it up and ask for my family's help again, or should I stay in this relationship?

— Confused in Texas

Dear Confused: Your question illustrates how child care lies at the heart of concerns for all single parents.

You mention two things about "Larry": His age, and his ability to help with your son. He likely deserves to have a partner who genuinely wants to be with him.

I can't speak for your parents, but I do believe that most parents, given the option, would rather provide some child care for their grandson than have their daughter dependent on her partner to do it.

You should check with your son's school and enroll him in after-school care, if at all possible. This sort of lower-cost program has been a godsend for hard-working parents.

Talk with your parents frankly about your needs. You should do everything possible to lessen any imposition on them.

I can speak for all parents here: We want for our children to demonstrate that they are moving forward. A good job, decent housing, stable schooling for your son: These are all signs that you are making progress. Keep going.

Dear Amy: When I was a teenager, I self-harmed and as a result have visible marks on one of my arms. These are left over from that time when I deliberately cut myself.

I often forget that these scars are there, and most people don't say anything about them, except for children.

On several occasions, young kids have asked me what's on my arm.

Over the years I have alternated between outright lies (I had an accident!), saying it's personal or evading/changing the subject.

Is there a better way to handle this?

— L

Dear L: I'm so glad you are healing from that very tough time in your life.

I say — own your scars. They are tangible evidence of your growth and survival.

You can tell a child, truthfully, "Those are scars. That's what your body does when it heals over a cut. The skin comes together and sometimes it leaves a mark. And those marks are there because I hurt myself when I was younger, but now it doesn't hurt at all."

If a child probes further, you can say, "Well, that's sort of personal, and I don't really want to talk about it, but I'm just glad I'm not hurt anymore."

Dear Amy: Your response to "Snacked" bordered on insulting. Because a grandfather was giving his grandchild cookies, you suggested he might steer the child "... toward less benign choices." Like what? No car seat, foul language, drugs!

Most of us grandparents are able to make the distinction between cookies and much more dangerous choices. How dare you! Your contemptuous, suspicious tone toward this grandpa was obvious and offensive.

— Upset

Dear Upset: I was exaggerating for effect. Unfortunately, it seems to have worked.

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HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Relationships are pleasant for you at this time. You may tend to project your positive mood onto others. Watch out for the possibility of becoming overbearing but also events that go well. You can use lessons you learn now when you face difficult times later.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You could be torn between laboring diligently to make money and indulging today. While your practical concerns are important, you aren't required to approach them in the same way you always have. Making your routines easier on yourself is worth a try right now.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Hanging out with friends could be a lot of fun today, as long as you maintain sensitivity. Someone else might be the dominant presence, and your challenge may look like accepting their leadership without losing yourself to it. You're likely to make a positive difference.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Public recognition could come to you today. The hard part might be getting your view of yourself to catch up to how the world sees you! You may need to shore up emotional security from within. Compassionately work to unravel mental blocks that are holding you back.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Conversations with friends and acquaintances could be especially informative for you at this time. Though you might feel a bit complacent, it may be less challenging than you think to make an exciting trip or course of study happen. Don't let your assumptions hold you back.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Getting financial help can help you achieve your current goals. Though gathering the courage to ask for help might be difficult, remember that people want to support you — especially if they see your success as an efficient way to check off some of their own aspirations.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Someone could be a generous mentor or teacher for you today. However, it may be important to remember that they are only human. You're perhaps drawn to people who seem larger than life right now, but keep in mind that your own instinctive knowledge has value as well.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Doing some routine cleaning could be relaxing for you now. Clear any really ambitious changes with others who have a say in the situation, just to be safe, but they're likely to be impressed! Your efforts to shape a peaceful environment can benefit everyone involved.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your ability to understand what makes you happy could be especially strong now. Sharing happiness can help you build a closer relationship, perhaps with someone you know in the context of a larger group of friends. Laughing is a great way to learn who really clicks with you.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Making your home comfortable could be a worthy aspiration for you now. You'll likely have to invest some work, but even the frustrating tasks should be quite rewarding. Use perspective to determine which minutiae aren't really worth pursuing further.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Discussing big ideas may be rewarding for you today. It could be surprising that you're able to do this in a fun way. While covering serious ground in a lighthearted way might seem foolish, an unusual approach can help. If you tell a joke, laughing at yourself is your best bet.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Financial abundance may comfort you at the moment, but others might want what you have. The feeling you get from helping could make giving worthwhile. However, keep an eye out for dynamics that remind you of something you experienced while growing up.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On May 12, 1932, the body of Charles Lindbergh Jr., the kidnapped son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh, was found.

In 1949, the Soviet Union lifted the Berlin Blockade, which the Western powers had succeeded in circumventing with their Berlin Airlift.

In 1958, the United States and Canada signed an agreement to create the North American Air Defense Command (later the North American Aerospace Defense Command).

In 1986, "Top Gun," starring Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis had its world premiere in New York.

In 2008, an earthquake in China's Sichuan province left more than 87,000 people dead or missing.

In 2017, dozens of countries were hit with a huge cyberextortion attack that locked computers and held users' files for ransom at hospitals, companies and government agencies.

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BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at ***PlayJumble.com***

Scan QR code to play online.

SUDOKU

	5		8		2		4	7
		9				3		
				7			2	
4					6	5		
				1	3			
		3						4
	8			5				
		1						
2	6		9		4		5	

Level: 1 2 3 **4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit *www.sudoku.org.uk.*

1	5	8	4	3	9	7	6	2
9	7	4	8	6	2	1	3	5
2	3	6	7	5	1	4	8	9
4	9	7	6	2	5	3	1	8
8	6	2	3	1	4	5	7	6
3	1	5	9	8	7	2	6	4
6	2	9	5	7	3	8	4	1
5	8	3	1	4	6	9	2	7
7	4	1	2	9	8	6	5	3

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8/25/17

WORD SEARCH

FLORAL DISPLAY

381

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

P A A E C Y D Y M S E S A M E S T B
G S I C L L F L O R A L L I W F Z P
J E X H O G A Z A N I A T E I L X O
J A I W C B I H F S T R E R R A A L
F P P R C O P A I E A T H E Y G N Y
A I O A I U K R P I R T V W Q M O A
C N E K N S I R R O G O E E R B R N
O K S L E E S B C O L L R E U F E T
C F O U R R S K D C D H V E D A G H
K J R P A M E E U Y G A A R S Z I U
S S R I R T T O M L P Q I I E B R S
C L U N I I B W R A L P N C P I E T
O A P M A Z A K P C G C O A A L R E
M M L D A T U R A M H N A P L R E G
B Y X I T I E M Y H T I O P K U D K
G S W L L O B E L I A A S L U K A N
O I E W K K L M I S I R E B I A L D
Y S N A T V T C L B A L O E M A Y T

ALOE
BALM
BRIAR
CINERARIA
CLOVER
COCKSCOMB
DATURA
ERICA
ERIGERON
FLAG
FLORA
GAZANIA
GODETIA
IBERIS
IRIS
IXIA
JAPANESE MAGNOLIA
KOCHIA
LILAC
LILY
LOBELIA
LUPIN
MAY
MUSK
MYRTLE
NUPHAR
ORCHIS
ORRIS
PAIGLE
PAPAVER
PETAL
POKER
POLYANTHUS
POPPY
RESEDA
ROSE
SEA-PINK
SEPAL
SESAME
SKULL-CAP
SWEET ROCKET
TANSY
THRIFT
THYME
VERVAIN
WATTLE
WELD

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BOGGLE

Boggle® BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

L	V	C	N
E	R	O	T
T	G	U	H
D	P	A	C

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www.bogglebrainbusters.com

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE® POINT SCALE
- 3 letters = 1 point
- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE® RATING
- 1151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
- 61-100 = Pro
- 31-60 = Gamer
- 21-30 = Rookie
- 11-20 = Amateur
- 0-10 = Try again

Boggle® BrainBusters Bonus

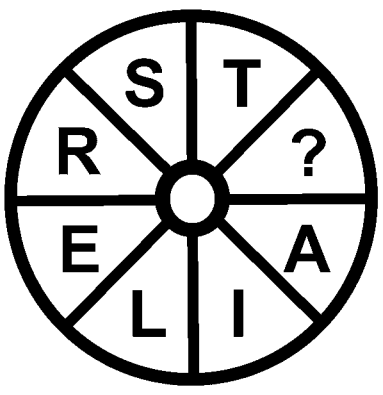
We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST FIVE WORDS RELATED TO BOOKS in the grid of letters.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

PAGE NOVEL COVER AUTHOR CHAPTER

WordWheel



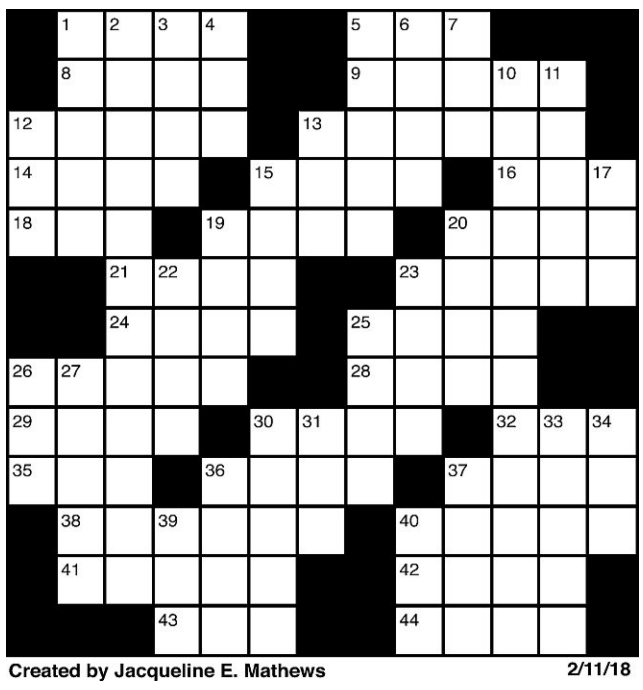
Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

TRAILERS

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TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 2/11/18

ACROSS
1 "How __ Your Mother"
5 Actor Vigoda
8 Captain in "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea"
9 Homer's wife
12 Son's name on "Alice"
13 Sean of "NCIS"
14 Popular Irish singer
15 "__ Man Standing"
16 Baby's high chair accessory
18 __ Moines, Iowa
19 Singer Marvin __
20 "Deal __ Deal"
21 Actress Sher of "The Middle
23 Prisons afloat
24 "Whose __ Is It Anyway?"
25 Series set at a school for the performing arts
26 Soldier's gun
28 Become dizzy
29 Skating rink shape
30 Will of "The Waltons"
32 Blood analysis site
35 Clamor
36 Ice cream scoop holder
37 __ Baxter; role on "That's So Raven"
38 "Crossing Over with John __"
40 Actress Bello
41 Prolonged attack
42 "__ Upon a Time"
43 "__ and Stacey"
44 Actor __ McDonough

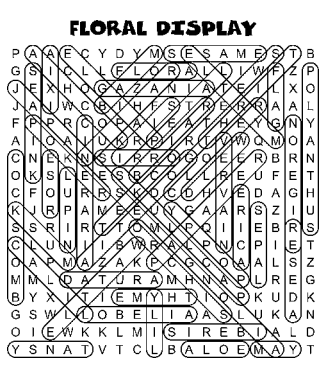
DOWN
1 __ ear and out the other
2 Series for Jaleel White
3 Samms or Thompson
4 "__ Story"; blockbuster animated film
5 Make laugh
6 One of the Maverick Brothers
7 Make a mistake
10 Captain __; role on "Star Trek: Discovery"
11 Watching
12 Knight or Koppel
13 Elly __ Clampett
15 Lois __; role on "Smallville"
17 Derek and Diddley
19 Actor Hackman
20 "Coffee, Tea __?"; Karen Valentine TV movie
22 Pickle variety
23 Actor Max __ Jr.
25 "Born __"; film about a lioness
26 Steiger or Serling
27 Climbing plants
30 Punctured
31 "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's __"; Johnny Depp movie
33 Lead character in "The Little Mermaid"
34 Win __ nose; achieve victory, but just barely
36 Actor Nicolas
37 Charlie Chaplin's prop
39 Ming-Na __
40 Night we watch "9JKL": abbr.

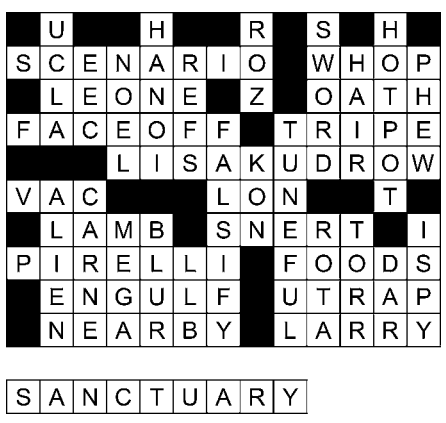


2/18/18

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FLORAL DISPLAY





S A N C T U A R Y

JUMBLE

JUMBLE®

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GHEED

OYRIN

GULOEN

GYEOAV

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



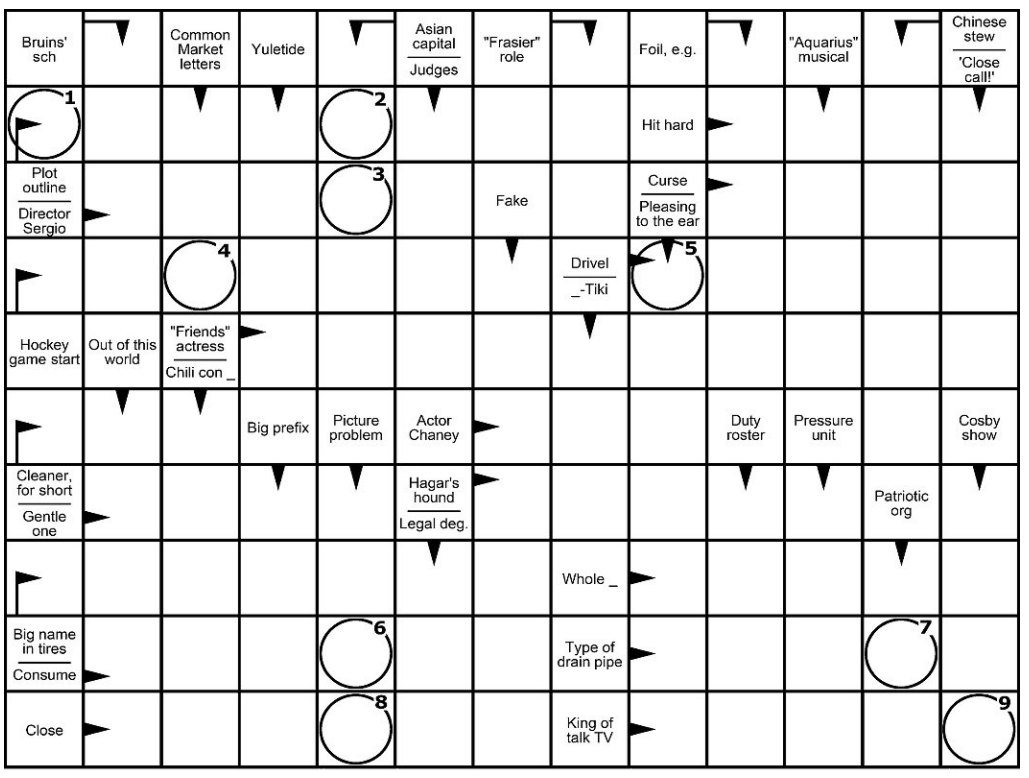
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )

Jumbles: HEDGE IRONY LOUNGE VOYAGE
Answer: NASCAR star Kevin Harvick loves golf and particularly enjoys a — LONG DRIVE

ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

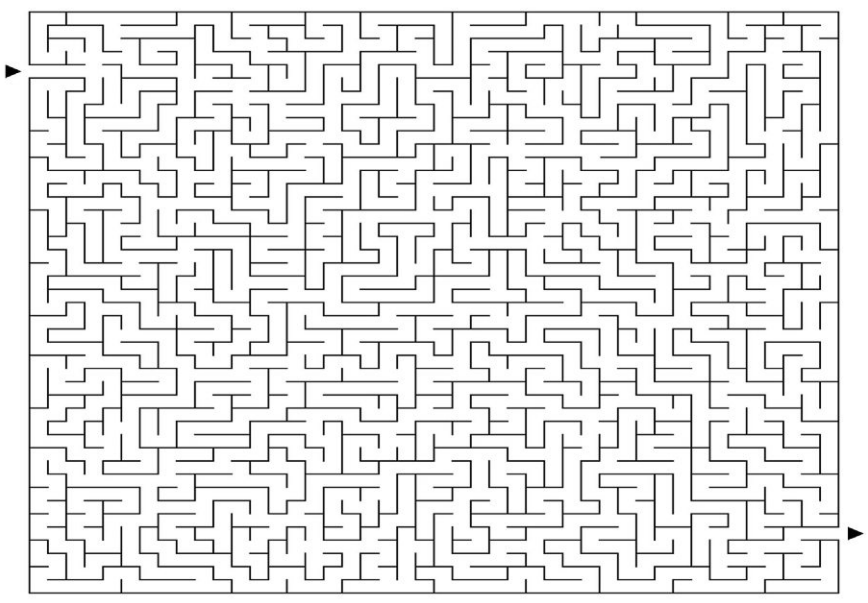


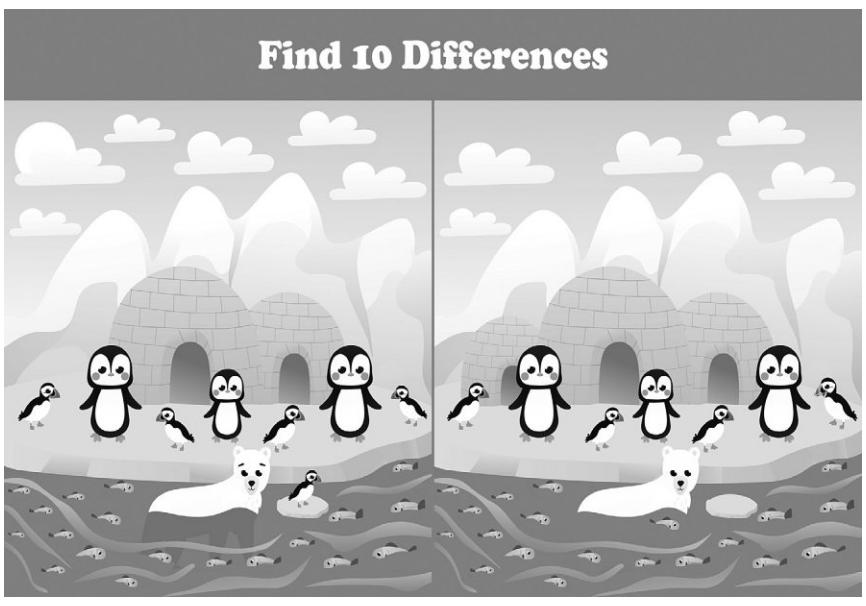
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12/26/20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES

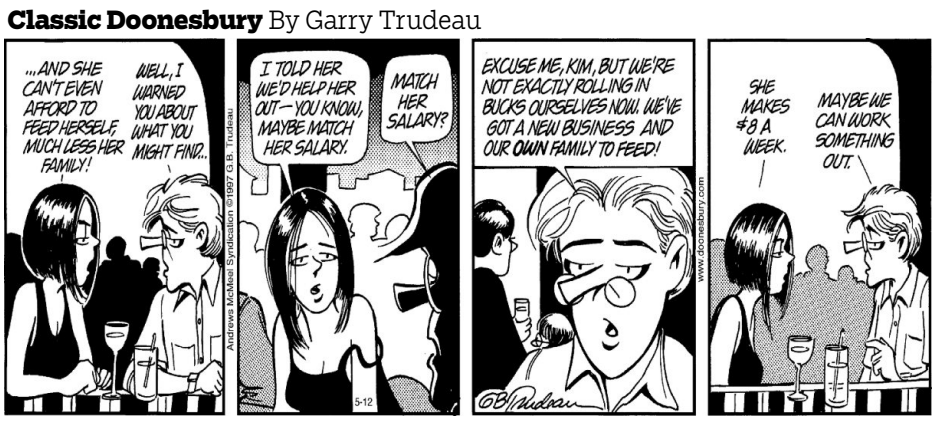




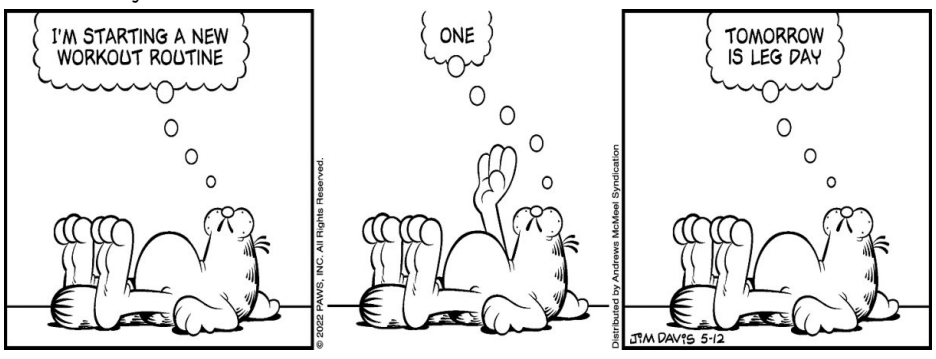
Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



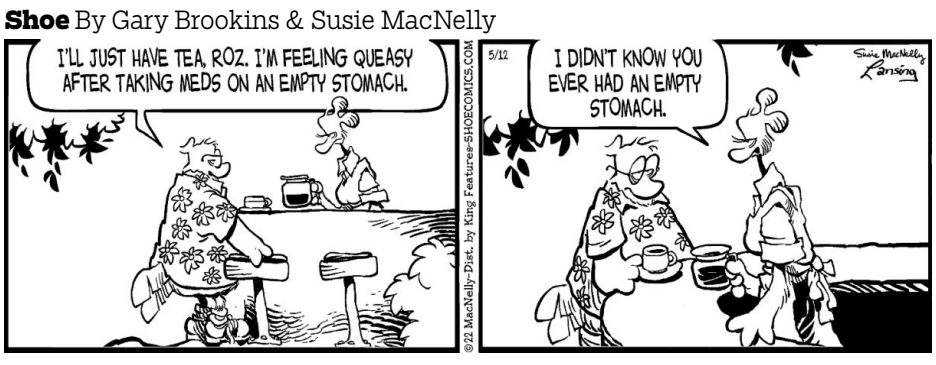
Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Garfield By Jim Davis



Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



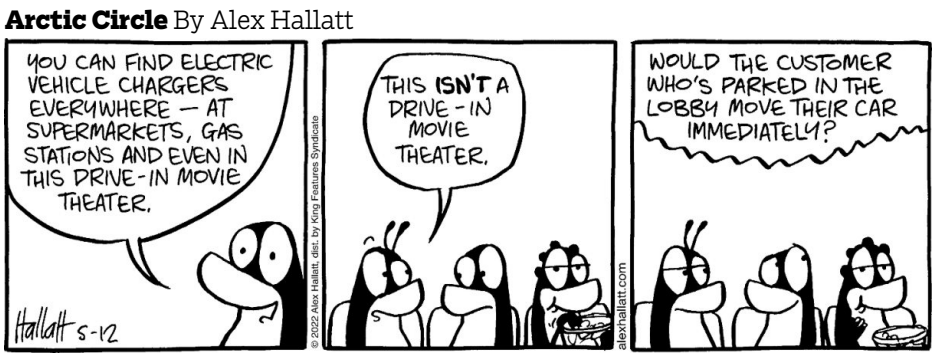
Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



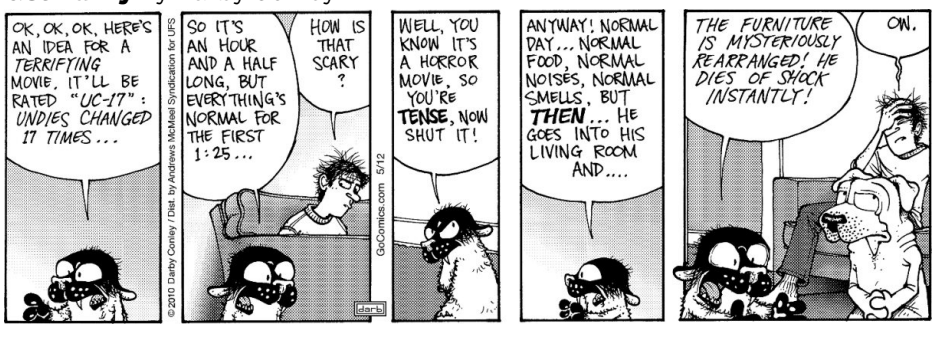
Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



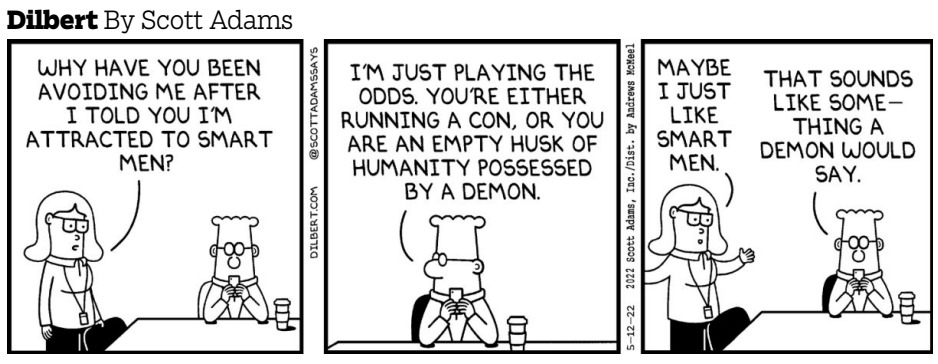
Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



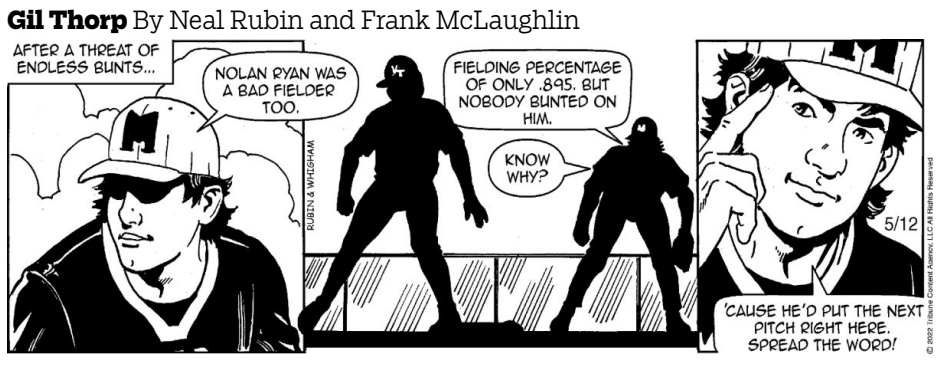
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



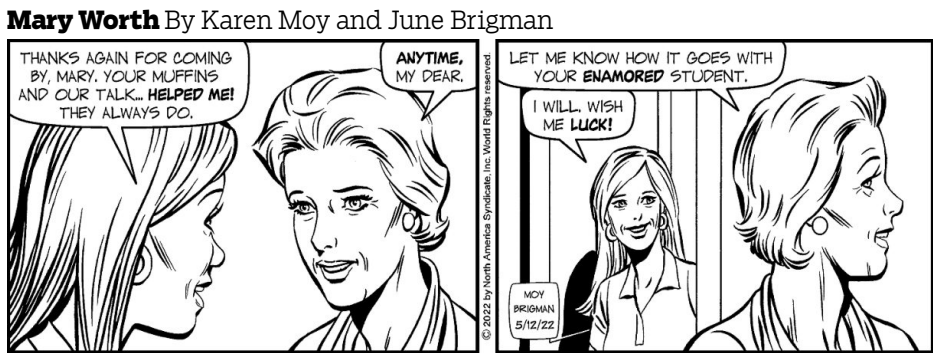
Dilbert By Scott Adams



Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



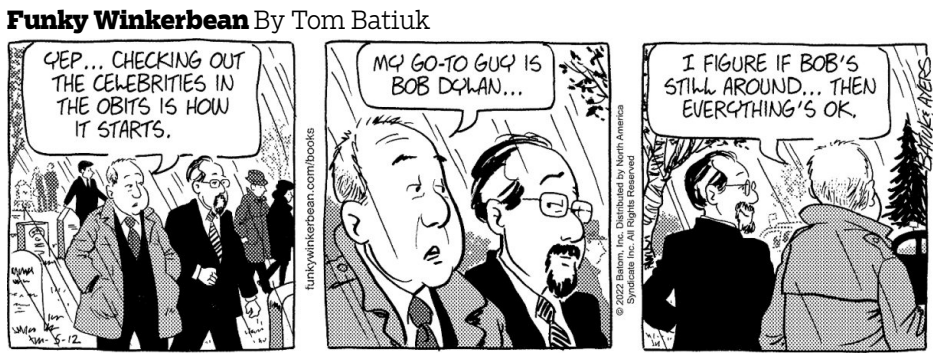
Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



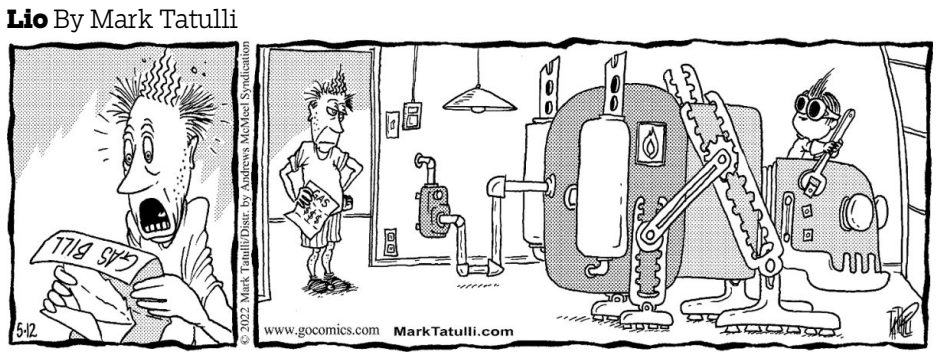
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



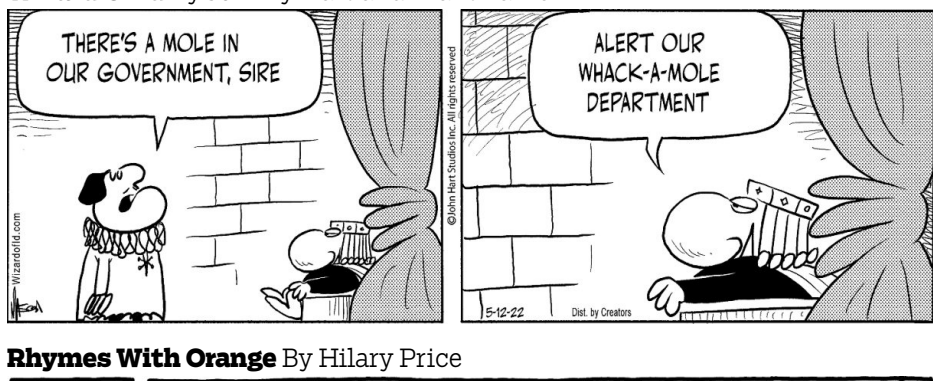
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



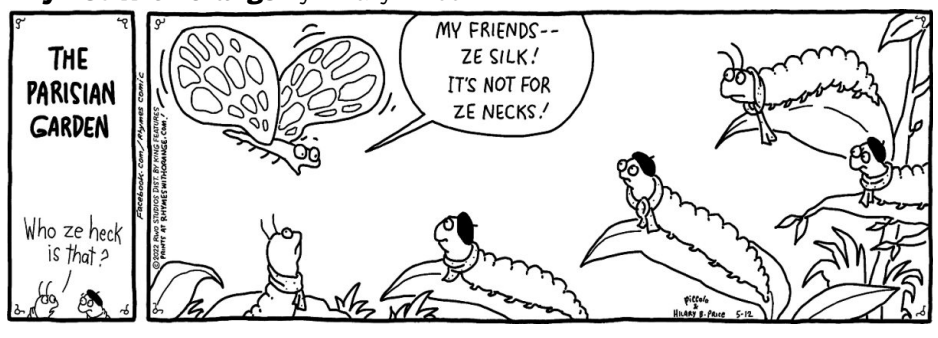
Lio By Mark Tatulli



Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



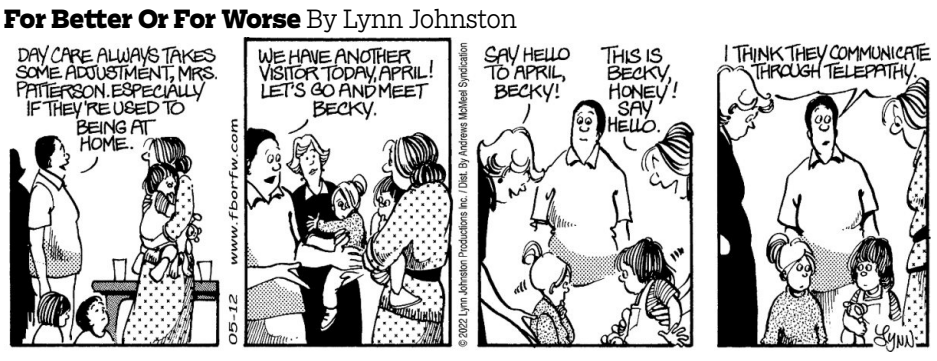
Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



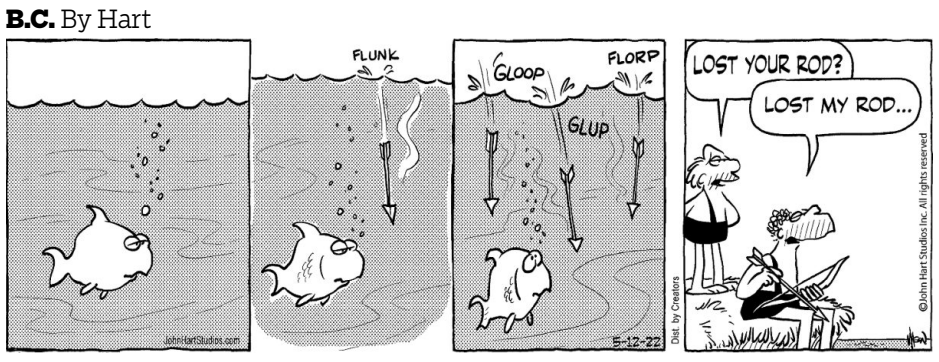
Monty By Jim Meddick



For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston



B.C. By Hart



Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker



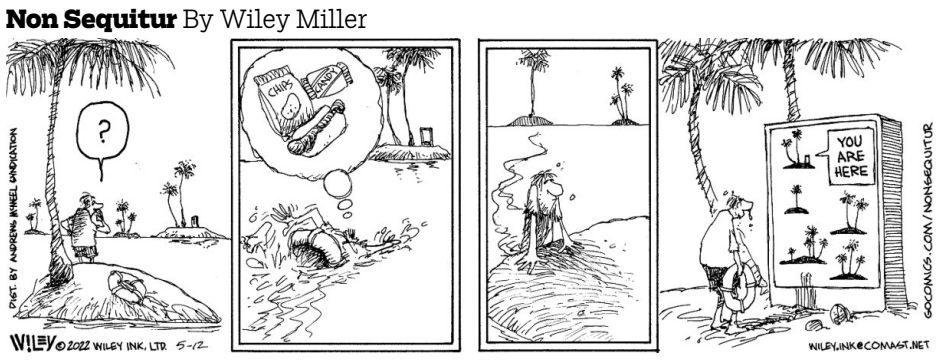
Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne



Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne



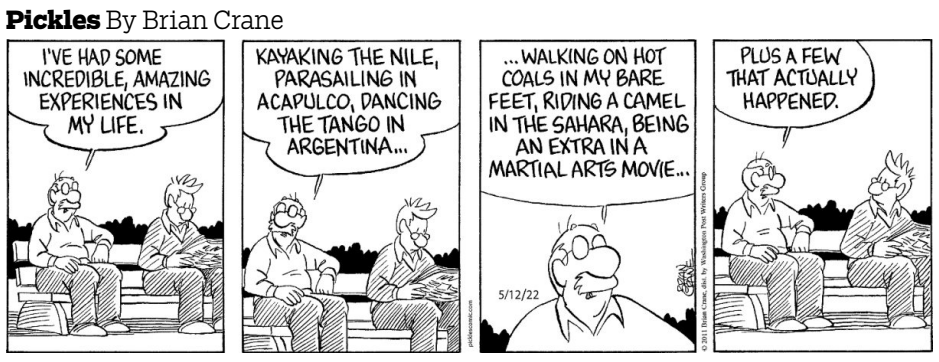
Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller



Curtis By Ray Billingsley



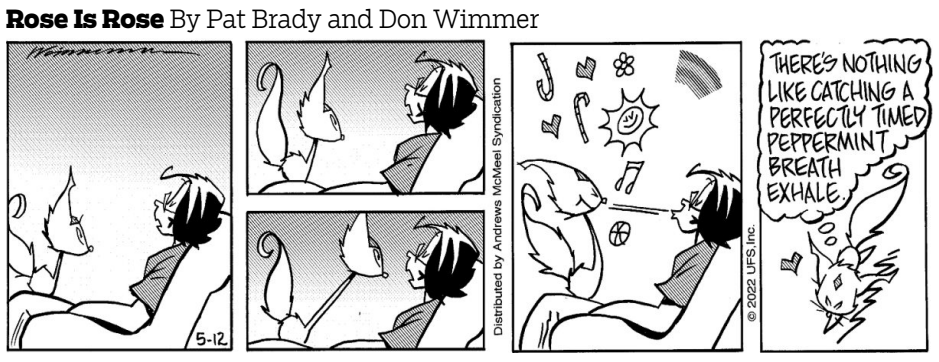
Pickles By Brian Crane



Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer



Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

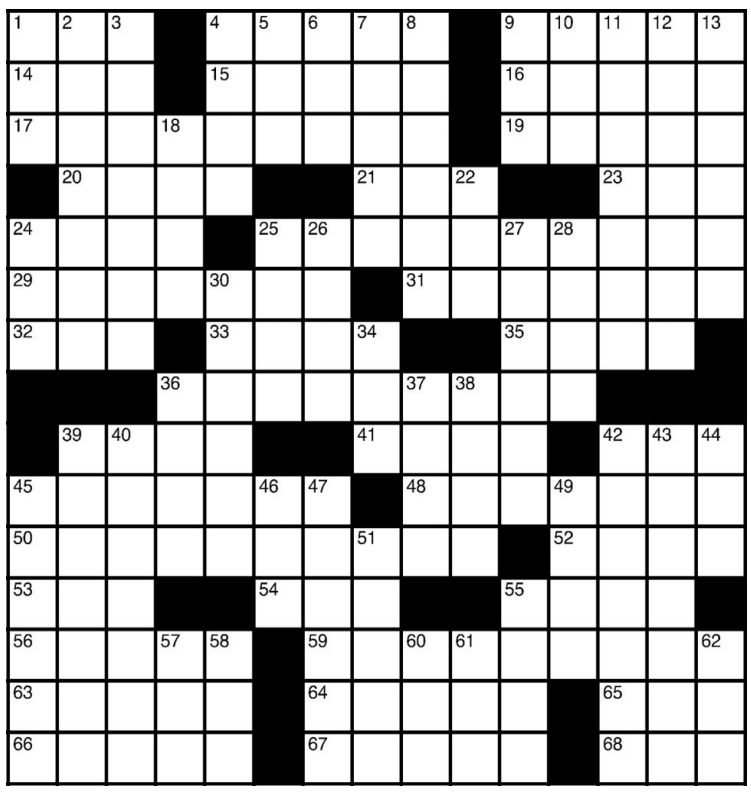
EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

1 Pea sheller's discard
4 Infatuate
9 Stands up to
14 "To say they __ I dare not be so bold": Shakespeare
15 Notable time period
16 Chew noisily
17 *Native American ritual
19 Bit part
20 Drinks with steep prices?
21 Most populous NATO country
23 Major-leaguer
24 Longish skirt
25 *Cut from the short loin
29 Light baked dish
31 With resolve
32 Econ. measure
33 Peignoir trim
35 Secondhand
36 *Finish loads of work?
39 W/o delay
41 Brain section
42 Lack of continuity
45 Starts to come out of one's shell
48 Vacation spots
50 *Rust-Oleum product
52 Restraining order
53 Cleveland NBAer
54 Org. that accepts returns
55 Opera set in Egypt that debuted in Cairo
56 Come to light
59 Evasive maneuvering, and what can literally be found in the answers to the starred clues
63 Take it easy
64 Laura Linney Netflix series
65 Feasted on
66 Caught some z's
67 Old TV parts
68 __ of averages

Down

1 "As __ my last email ... "
2 Formal discourse
3 Shriveled
4 Some twins
5 AQI monitor
6 Sir Carter, to Beyoncé
7 Happen
8 Project that must be defended
9 Net-neutrality regulatory org.
10 Cry with a finger snap
11 Vie
12 "Promising Young Woman" writer/director Fennell
13 Eerie
18 Innocent
22 Well-chosen
24 Sprinkle that adds umami, for short
25 Louver part
26 __ support
27 Makes soaking wet
28 Derriere
30 Potter character
34 Slithery fish
36 Gillian's role on "The X-Files"
37 Shabby
38 Provide job support?
39 Clothes
40 Overly submissive
42 Not done all at once
43 Donald Glover series set in the South
44 L.A. winter hrs.
45 Awards for Hunt and Hunter
46 Global news agcy.
47 Polly-syllabic pet?
49 One of Pittsburgh's three rivers
51 Automaker named for a Japanese river
55 Sacred chests
57 Drain
58 Office contact no.
60 Arrest
61 "__ you quite through?"
62 Drops on the grass



By Lynn Lempel Tribune Content Agency 5/12/22

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K Q 6
♥ 9 5 4 2
♦ A K 8 7 4
♣ J

WEST
♠ 8 5 4 2
♥ K Q J 8 3
♦ 10 6
♣ K 7

EAST
♠ 3
♥ 10 7 6
♦ Q J 9 3
♣ A 10 9 6 4

SOUTH
♠ A J 10 9 7
♥ A
♦ 5 2
♣ Q 8 5 3 2

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	

Opening lead — king of hearts.

Standard procedure

Assume you're declarer at four spades and West leads the king of hearts to your ace. How would you continue?

When the deal occurred, South led a low club at trick two, setting the stage for a crossruff. West put up the king and tried to stop declarer from scoring his trumps separately by shifting to the deuce of spades, taken by South with the seven.

Despite the trump return, declarer could still count 10 tricks — five spades in his hand, two club ruffs in dummy, the A-K of diamonds and the heart already won. So he trumped a club, trumped a heart and trumped another club as West discarded the six of diamonds.

From here on, declarer was fighting a losing battle. Regardless of how he proceeded, he could not score two diamond tricks, since West could trump the second diamond lead. So South finished one trick short of his goal.

Declarer was certainly correct in deciding to crossruff, but faulty technique cost him his contract. He violated a basic rule which stipulates that before embarking on a crossruff, declarer should first cash any side suit winners he may have. Otherwise, the defenders might be able to discard in that suit while the crossruff is in progress and then trump declarer's side suit winners later on.

Observe that if South had simply cashed the A-K of diamonds after winning West's spade return at trick three and then proceeded as before, 10 tricks would have been his for the taking.

Tomorrow: Two double-dummy problems.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

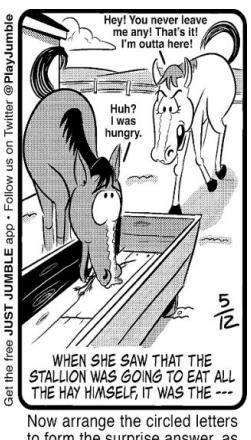
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NIHEW

IMLTI

GASUYR

RTFEHA



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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TAKEN SUNNY EXOTIC LAZIER
Answer: The African feline king's son would eventually become king because he was — NEXT IN "LION"

TODAY'S SUDOKU

			4			6		
	4	6		5			7	
		9		1		3		
9			2	8				1
				4				
2				3	5			8
		5				8		
	6			9		2	1	
		3			4			

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit **www.sudoku.org.uk**

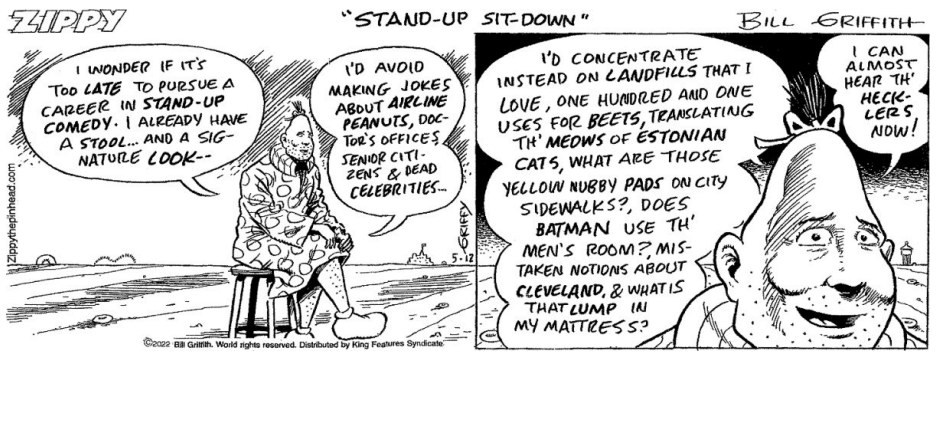
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

1	5	7	8	4	6	2	3	9
3	8	9	1	5	2	6	4	7
2	6	4	9	7	3	8	5	1
7	2	5	6	3	1	4	9	8
8	1	6	4	9	5	7	2	3
9	4	3	7	2	8	5	1	6
6	9	2	3	8	4	1	7	5
4	3	1	5	6	7	9	8	2
5	7	8	2	1	9	3	6	4

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

S	T	A	T	U	E	S	■	S	E	L	E	C	T	S
C	O	R	I	N	T	H	■	I	R	O	N	O	R	E
A	M	I	N	D	C	O	N	T	R	O	L	L	E	D
N	E	A	T	O	■	P	O	T	■	■	■	L	A	G
■	■	■	E	N	D	■	H	E	N	■	H	A	T	E
A	I	R	D	E	O	D	O	R	I	Z	E	R	■	■
T	R	Y	■	■	N	E	W	■	E	A	R	■	■	■
F	R	E	E	M	A	N	■	A	L	C	O	P	O	P
■	■	■	B	L	T	■	I	R	S	■	■	B	U	D
■	■	M	A	K	E	S	S	C	E	N	T	S	I	F
D	D	A	Y	■	D	U	A	■	N	O	R	■	■	■
R	O	T	■	■	■	M	A	C	■	T	O	I	L	S
Y	O	U	T	H	I	N	K	A	B	O	U	T	I	T
E	N	R	O	U	T	E	■	P	A	N	P	I	P	E
R	E	E	N	T	E	R	■	T	R	E	E	S	A	P

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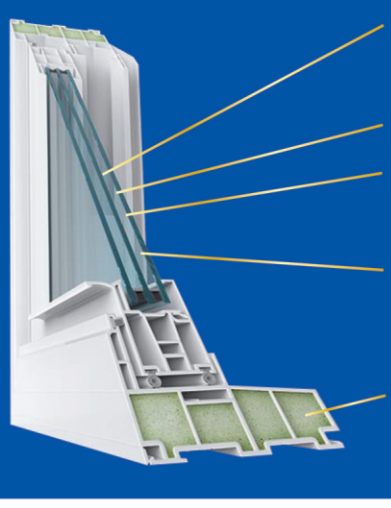
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UCONN MEN'S BASKETBALL

Huskies land another guard

Diarra transfers in from Texas A&M with 3 years left

By Shreyas Laddha
Hartford Courant

Former Texas A&M guard Hassan Diarra announced via social media on Wednesday that he is transferring to the UConn men's basketball team.

Diarra will join Andre Jackson, Andrew Hurley, Jordan Hawkins, East Carolina transfer Tristen Newton and Virginia Tech transfer Nahiem Alleyne as the guards on the roster.

Diarra averaged 6.2 points, 1.8 rebounds and 1.4 assists in the 2021-22 season and will have three years of eligibility left. He's a guard that does a little bit of everything but saw minutes fall from 19.5 per game his freshman season to 15.4 last season. His brother, Mamadou, was a former Huskies graduate assistant and graduated on Sunday with a master's degree. .

Hassan felt the allure of UConn was too hard to pass up.

"I just love the culture, the guards, the history of the guards," he said. "Being from the East Coast it's kind of a big deal playing at UConn and having their success. I've built a relationship with the coaches and there's a lot of opportunity to play with some great players."

Diarra, a native of Bronx, NY, said he left Texas A&M for two main reasons and feels he can bring a lot to the Huskies.

"I just felt like I kind I wanted to get closer to home and more opportunity to play," he said. "I bring in my leadership and toughness to the team; definitely bring it every day. I am trying to build championship habits and win championships whether it's the Big East or the national championship."

Diarra has high hopes for next season.

"It's going to be a lot of fun

Turn to Transfer, Page 4



Former Texas A&M guard Hassan Diarra dribbles down the court during a game on Jan. 19 in College Station, Texas. **JUSTIN REX/AP**

NHL

Rangers may face difficult decision

Strome or Copp could become cap casualty

By Colin Stephenson
Newsday

NEW YORK — Just about everything worked out perfectly for the Rangers this season as they emerged from their four-year rebuild and barged their way into the NHL's elite and into the playoffs for the first time since 2017.

Along the way, they demonstrated tremendous resilience, answering every question posed to them, and meeting every challenge. But on Wednesday they were faced with the biggest challenge so far: trying to dig out of a 3-1 series deficit in their first-round, best-of-seven matchup against the Pittsburgh Penguins.

It wasn't an impossible task. Thirty previous NHL teams have rallied from a 3-1 deficit to win a best-of-seven series, the most recent being the Montreal Canadiens, who did it last year against the Toronto Maple Leafs. The Rangers have done it twice, in 2014 against these same Penguins, and in 2015 against the Washington Capitals. If they managed to win Game 5 at Madison Square Garden Wednesday, Game 6 would be Friday in Pittsburgh.

If they didn't though, the season would be over in disappointing fashion, and they would immediately have to ponder the question of what went wrong in the end, and how best to fix it.

General manager Chris Drury had the cap space this season to load up at the trade deadline, and he did, acquiring forwards Frank Vatrano, Andrew Copp and Tyler Motte and defenseman Justin Braun, all of whom have become integral parts of the team. But the Rangers won't have

Turn to Rangers, Page 4



Brooklyn Nets guard Kyrie Irving will need to prove his commitment to GM Sean Marks if he wants to move foward with the team. **SETH WENIG/AP**

NBA

Dedication will decide

For future with team, Nets want more commitment from Irving

By Brian Mahoney
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kyrie Irving may have to show the Brooklyn Nets he's more than a great basketball player if he wants a future with the team.

General manager Sean Marks made clear Wednesday that Irving will have to prove a commitment to being available to his team that wasn't there this season.

After Irving missed almost all the Nets' home games because he refused to be vaccinated against the coronavirus, Marks said talks about a potential contract extension this summer will need to include an evaluation of his dedication to play unless he's injured.

"I think those are going to be discussions," Marks said. "It's a team sport and you need everybody out there on the court."

The Nets rarely had that during a disappointing season that saw an NBA championship favorite finish seventh in the Eastern Conference and get swept by the Boston Celtics in the first round.

They began the season playing without Irving, deciding they didn't want him to be a part-time player. They eventually brought him back in December to play road games only — a decision Marks wouldn't second-guess — with Irving unable to play in New York because of the city's mandate requiring vaccination to perform in public venues.

An exception to the mandate made him available for all games in late March, but by then the Nets were climbing out of a huge hole and had to win a play-in game just to reach the postseason.

Irving is eligible for an extension this summer and said he sees himself remaining in Brooklyn alongside Kevin Durant, who signed an extension last summer.

Marks said they haven't had any contract discussions yet with Irving but said the Nets know what they're looking for.

"We're looking for guys that want to come in here and be part of something bigger than themselves, play selfless, play team basketball and be available," Marks said. "And that goes not only for Kyrie but for everybody here."

Irving has an option for almost $37 million next season, but could seek an extension that would pay him an additional $185 million

Turn to Nets, Page 4

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Pitching-rich UConn the top team to beat in Big East tourney

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant



UConn freshman Elise Sokolsky was a difference-maker for the team, going 19-4 for the Big East regular-season champ. Next up is the conference tournament beginning Thursday at DePaul. **PHELAN M. EBENHACK/AP**

Laura Valentino became UConn's head softball coach on July 3, 2019. It was already late in the recruiting season, so she hit the trail the next day, flying to Colorado for one of the big showcases of the summer.

There, a right-handed pitcher caught her eye: Elise Sokolsky.

"I wanted to have players that fit the personality of the program we were trying to build," Valentino said. "What sold me on Elise, physically she was somebody that the sky was the limit on the mound, but what really sold me on her was her character. She wants to be a coach, and she talked about how much she wanted to be a student of the game and help this program become a national power.

"Those those words are key words I'm looking for in recruits. That made me really want Elise to be part of this program."

This season, the freshman from Centerton, Arkansas, joined a team full of seniors and grad students at UConn and proved to be a rock-steady presence on the mound, going 19-5 with a 2.54 ERA as the Huskies rolled to their first Big East regular-season title since 1997.

Now Sokolsky, Meghan O'Neil (12-7, 2.98) and Marybeth Olson (5-3, 2.66) are poised to carry the Huskies' postseason hopes into the Big East Tournament starting Thursday. Top-seeded UConn takes on No. 4 DePaul, the host school, in Chicago at noon. Second seed Butler plays No. 3 Villanova in the second game.

Turn to Softball, Page 4

YANKEES 5, BLUE JAYS 3

Torres plays hero with homer, 5 RBIs

By Kristie Ackert
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Gleyber Torres spent weeks watching video this winter. The Yankees' second baseman was unhappy and frustrated. For the first two seasons of his career, he was a rising young star and then the next two seasons he was a disappointment. After the end of the 2021 season, he retreated to the batting cages at the Yankees minor league complex to try and rediscover the 2019 swing.

"Last year was a very [hard] struggle for me. And I mean after the season I see too many videos. I was working, working in the cage and all that kind of stuff," Torres said. "Now, I mean all the work I put in the offseason, I can show that every time I go to home plate. I mean I can still learn the game. I mean, it's so difficult right now to hit, but I just try to be on top of the situation. And to be simple, try to put the ball in play."

Wednesday, Torres showed off that offseason work again. The second baseman drove in all five of the Yankees' runs as they completed a two-game sweep of the Blue Jays with a 5-3 win at the Stadium.

Jameson Taillon overcame a rough first inning, but allowed just two runs on six hits, walked a batter and struck out four in 5.1 innings of work. DJ LeMahieu doubled and has reached base in 22 of his last 24 games. Aaron Judge, who hit a three-run walkoff homer Tuesday night, went 1-for-4 and has hit safely in 12 of his last 14 games.

The Yankees (22-8) assumed control of the best record in baseball and, perhaps more importantly, continued to dominate an American League East challenger.

Turn to Yankees, Page 2

SPORTS

UP NEXT

Celtics: NBA Second Round at Bucks (Game 6), Friday, time TBD; NBA Second Round vs. Bucks (Game 7, if necessary), Sunday, time TBD
Bruins: NHL First Round vs. Hurricanes (Game 6), Thursday, 7 p.m.; NHL First Round at Hurricanes (Game 7, if necessary), Saturday, time TBD
Rangers: NHL First Round at Penguins (Game 6, if necessary), Friday, 7 p.m.; NHL First Round vs. Penguins (Game 7, if necessary), Sunday, time TBD
Red Sox: at Rangers, Friday, 8 p.m.; at Rangers, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Rangers, Sunday, 2:30 p.m.
Yankees: at White Sox, Thursday, 8 p.m.; at White Sox, Friday, 8 p.m.; at White Sox, Saturday, 7 p.m.
Mets: at Nationals, Thursday, 1 p.m.; Mariners, Friday, 7 p.m.; Mariners, Saturday, 7 p.m.
Yard Goats: Portland, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Portland, Friday, 7 p.m.; Portland, Saturday, 6 p.m.
Sun: Sparks, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Liberty, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Fever, May 20, 7 p.m.
Hartford Athletic: N.Y. Red Bulls II, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Tulsa, May 21, 8:30 p.m.; Phoenix, May 28, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO

BASEBALL
1 p.m.: New York Mets at Washington Nationals. (Live), SNY. Radio: 880.
1 p.m.: Regional Coverage. (Live) MLB
7 p.m.: Georgia at Tennessee. (Live) ESPNU
8 p.m.: New York Yankees at Chicago White Sox. (Live), YES. Radio: 97.9.
8 p.m.: Regional Coverage. (Live) MLB
10 p.m.: Pacific at BYU. (Live) ESPNU
12 a.m.: Philadelphia Phillies at Los Angeles Dodgers. (Live) MLB
BASKETBALL
7 p.m.: Miami Heat at Philadelphia 76ers. (Live) ESPN
9:30 p.m.: Phoenix Suns at Dallas Mavericks. (Live) ESPN
2 a.m.: Miami Heat at Philadelphia 76ers. (Same-day Tape) ESPN2
GOLF
7 a.m.: DP World Tour Golf Soudal Open, First Round. (Live) GOLF
10:30 a.m.: Cognizant Founders Cup, First Round. (Live) GOLF
1:30 p.m.: 2022 Regions Tradition First Round. (Live) GOLF
4 p.m.: AT&T Byron Nelson, First Round. (Live) GOLF
HOCKEY
12 p.m.: Washington Capitals at Florida Panthers. (Taped) NHL
2 p.m.: Pittsburgh Penguins at New York Rangers. (Taped) NHL
7 p.m.: NHL First Round: Carolina Hurricanes at Boston Bruins. (Live), TNT, NESN.
7:30 p.m.: Toronto Maple Leafs at Tampa Bay Lightning. (Live) SPRTNET TBS
9:30 p.m.: Minnesota Wild at St. Louis Blues. (Live) TNT
10 p.m.: Edmonton Oilers at Los Angeles Kings. (Live) TBS
10:20 p.m.: Edmonton Oilers at Los Angeles Kings. (Live) SPRTNET
RUGBY
3:58 a.m.: NRL Rugby Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs vs Newcastle Knights. (Live) FSP
SOCCER
10 a.m.: Italian Serie B Soccer (Live) FSP
2:45 p.m.: Premier League Soccer Tottenham Hotspur vs Arsenal. (Live) USA
6:20 p.m.: Copa do Brazil Soccer Cruzeiro vs Remo. (Live) FSP
10 p.m.: Fútbol Mexicano Primera División Chivas de Guadalajara vs Atlas. (Live) TELE
10:30 p.m.: Copa do Brazil Soccer Sao Paulo vs Juventude. (Same-day Tape) FSP
SOFTBALL
11 a.m.: ACC Tournament, Game 3: Teams TBA. (Live) ACC
12 p.m.: SEC Tournament, Game 6: Teams TBA. (Live) SEC
1 p.m.: Phillips 66 Big 12 Championship: First Round. (Live) ESPNU
1:30 p.m.: ACC Tournament, Game 4: Clemson vs Notre Dame. (Live) ACC
2:30 p.m.: SEC Tournament, Game 7: Teams TBA. (Live) SEC
5 p.m.: ACC Tournament, Game 5: Teams TBA. (Live) ACC
5 p.m.: SEC Tournament, Game 8: Teams TBA. (Live) SEC
7:30 p.m.: ACC Tournament, Game 6: Virginia vs Florida State. (Live) ACC
7:30 p.m.: SEC Tournament, Game 9: Teams TBA. (Live) SEC
TENNIS
6 a.m.: ATP/WTA Tennis Rome-ATP/WTA, Early Rounds. (Live) TENNIS
5 a.m.: ATP/WTA Tennis Rome-ATP/WTA, Quarterfinals. (Live) TENNIS
TRACK AND FIELD
6 p.m.: American Track League: Puerto Rico Athletics Classic. (Live) ESPN2

RED SOX

Dip into Triple-A depth reveals an improved Cordero

By Jason Mastrodonato
Boston Herald

Is there anyone else down in Triple-A Worcester who might be worthy of a look?

Thus far, the Woo Sox have a perfect record of sending up players who look as able, if not even better-suited to make contributions than some of the guys on the big league team.

Tuesday night, it was Franchy Cordero, Tyler Danish and John Schreiber who played key roles in the Sox' 9-4 win over the Atlanta Braves.

Cordero was on base three times with three walks. Danish got the win after relieving a struggling Garrett Whitlock in the fourth inning and throwing two scoreless frames. Schreiber got the save with scoreless innings in the eighth and ninth.

These are three guys who were in Triple-A a week or two ago.

The Red Sox haven't been willing to give any of their prospects a try just yet — Chaim Bloom indicated on Saturday that it's too soon to think about Triston Casas' promotion, despite his .373 on-base percentage and six home runs — but at least the Sox have started to show the willingness to shuffle the roster in other ways.

Cordero wasn't expected to do much this year, but suddenly looks like a player who can control the strikezone and do it from a position that has been killing this team.

At first base, the Sox entered the Atlanta series with a 30th-ranked .129 batting average, 30th-ranked .195 on-base percentage, 30th-ranked .190 slugging percentage, and a 30th-ranked negative-four defensive runs saved.

Cordero probably won't help much on defense, and he may have actually hurt the Sox when he couldn't come up with a hot shot off the bat of Matt Olson that led to a Braves run in the seventh inning. But at the plate, he offered something out of character for him: a cautious and calculated approach.

His first time up, he walked on four pitches, one of which was a first-pitch curveball on the outer edge of the plate, a pitch that others in this Red Sox' lineup probably would've swung at and rolled over for a groundball to the shortstop. But Cordero laid off, took his free pass and then walked two more times in the game.

Cordero is the first Red Sox first baseman to reach safely three times in a game this year.

It's particularly notable given how poorly Cordero has been at handling the strike zone. He chased 33% of the pitches he saw outside of the strikezone last year, but that rate has fallen to 24% entering Tuesday, and soon to fall even further after his three-walk game.

If Cordero can offer the Sox anything at first base, it'd be an upgrade from what they've gotten. And it could potentially start to even the scale for Bloom, who traded Andrew Benintendi to acquire Cordero, only to watch him hit .189 with a stunning 51 strikeouts in just 136 plate appearances a year ago. This year, Benintendi is hitting .330 with the Royals.

RED SOX NOTES

Schreiber emerging as an intriguing option for bullpen

By Steve Hewitt
Boston Herald

ATLANTA — Alex Cora has yet to truly find someone in the Red Sox bullpen he trusts to close games this season, amplified by a league-leading nine blown saves and six saves recorded by six different pitchers.

That makes the sudden emergence of John Schreiber all the more enticing.

Schreiber became the latest Red Sox pitcher to save a game in Tuesday night's 9-4 victory over the Braves as he threw two shutout innings — which included back-to-back strikeouts of Atlanta's Ronald Acuña Jr. and Matt Olson to clinch his first career save. It was the latest example of Cora's growing confidence in the right-hander who still has relative inexperience pitching in the majors.

The 28-year-old Schreiber — an under-the-radar waiver pickup by Chaim Bloom in 2021 — had a solid year with Worcester last season and has gotten some opportunity with the Red Sox early this season. He was called up when Tanner Houck and Kutter Crawford were ineligible for last month's series in Toronto, and again brought up last week as a fill-in when Rich Hill tested positive for COVID-19.

Schreiber has made the most of his chances, entering Wednesday without giving up a run in 6 ⅓ innings while striking out six and walking none. His fastball — which topped out at 94 mph on Tuesday and was up significantly more than his season average — is playing with his go-to slider for an effective combination.

Whitlock staying in rotation: The Red Sox still see Garrett Whitlock's value being better as a starter rather than the ace reliever he started the season as. Whitlock will continue in the rotation and make a start next week.

It doesn't seem like that will change anytime soon even though Whitlock was dominant to start the season in the bullpen.

Sale's recovery: Chris Sale has not yet resumed throwing after a personal medical issue paused his rehab, but he should be throwing again within days, according to a source. Sale is rehabbing from a stress fracture in his right rib cage that he suffered in the spring.

METS

Showalter reluctant to move McNeil up in order

By Tim Healey
Newsday

WASHINGTON — Buck Showalter has dealt with daily temptation, he said, to move hot-hitting Jeff McNeil up in the Mets' batting order. But he so far has resisted making that move regularly for the sake of lineup balance and depth.

"Depending on the need of the team and how our batting order works and the challenge it presents to a bullpen and to an opposing pitcher," Showalter said. "It creates a lot better matchups after the sixth inning if you can space some things out and aren't top heavy or bottom heavy. You want to create the biggest challenge for a guy to grind through. And then if he moves up, somebody else moves down."

Heading into the Mets' game against the Nationals on Wednesday, McNeil was hitting .333, tops on the team and tied for seventh in the majors. He has bounced back in a big way from his .251 average last year to be more in line with his career norm (.301).

But over the past three weeks, he has hit fifth or higher on just four occasions (and seventh or lower nine times).

Another first baseman: Mark Canha recently has been working at first base with infield coach Joey Cora, at the request of Showalter. He has experience there — 118 games in eight seasons — but just one inning in the past year. The manager wants him to stay ready.

First base happens to be where the Mets are most stacked, with Pete Alonso and Dominic Smith.

Noah who?: After the Angels' Reid Detmers threw a no-hitter, new Angel Noah Syndergaard seemed to take a shot at the Mets, writing on Instagram: "This is what a 'real' no hitter looks like." The Mets threw a combined no-hitter on April 29 against the Phillies.

"Throwing a 1 pitcher No-Hitter (is) a rarity by today's game standards," he wrote on Twitter after his remark received significant attention, adding in a separate tweet: "Oh and to be clear, I don't think a combined no hitter is the same as 'real' 1 pitcher no hitter."

Asked if he had seen Syndergaard's comments, Showalter first said: "Who?" Then he acknowledged that he had.

MLB LATE TUESDAY

Judge hits 3-run HR in 9th to give Yanks victory over Jays

Associated Press

It took Aaron Judge exactly 600 major-league games to hit his first walk-off home run.

When he finally connected Tuesday night, the soaring drive certainly measured up to the moment.

Judge hit a mammoth three-run shot in the ninth inning to give the New York Yankees a scintillating 6-5 comeback victory over the rival Toronto Blue Jays at Yankee Stadium.

"What a game," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "A heavyweight game. Those are fun ones to be a part of."

Giancarlo Stanton tied it with a modest three-run shot in the sixth, and the Yankees rallied for their 14th victory in 16 games after three Toronto ejections left the angry Blue Jays seeing red.

New York overcame a shaky start from Luis Severino and improved to 21-8, the best record in the majors.

George Springer launched a leadoff homer for Toronto, and Lourdes Gurriel Jr. ripped a tiebreaking double in the eighth that helped the Blue Jays take a 5-3 lead on Alejandro Kirk's sacrifice fly.

But in the ninth Jose Trevino and DJ LeMahieu drew consecutive one-out walks from Jordan Romano (1-2) before Judge sent a hanging 1-2 slider 450 feet into the second deck in left field.

It was the 10th home run of the season for Judge, who began the night tied for the major-league lead. His 167 previous home runs were the fifth-most among active players without a walk-off shot.

Red Sox 9, Braves 4: At Atlanta, Rafael Devers hit his first career grand slam and the Red Sox broke out for clean-shaven manager Alex Cora in a win that ended a five-game skid.

Devers hit a fastball from Kyle Wright 432 feet off the center-field scoreboard behind the Braves' bullpen.

"I got a good pitch to hit," said Devers through a translator. "If it was in the zone, I was going to put a good swing on it."

Devers also had a double and a walk.

The slam, Devers' fifth homer, was the highlight of Boston's six-run second inning. Trevor Story had a two-run single in the ninth.

YANKEES NOTES

As Judge stays hot, Cashman mum on slugger's contract

By Kristie Ackert
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — As the ball sailed into the second deck, you could almost hear the cash register adding up more money on Aaron Judge's expected free-agent contract. The Yankees' 30-year-old slugger not only leads the majors with 10 homers this season, he's been clutch. Tuesday night's blast was Judge's first career walk-off home run and it's coming as he and the Yankees are headed toward an arbitration date believed to be in June.

Brian Cashman declined to comment Wednesday on whether the Bombers have made any progress on a deal for Judge this season or beyond. The Yankees GM reiterated what he said hours before the team's first game of the season; the Yankees tried negotiating a long-term extension that, including the 2022 season, would have been worth $230 million.

"When I talked to everybody here right before the season started, just to shine a light on everything, we honored the conversations... we certainly made an attempt and then we're not going to talk about it now going forward," Cashman said before the Yankees took on the Blue Jays at the Stadium. "Whether that means we're not going to talk — and I'm not saying that — but we're not going to talk about it here in this forum moving forward.

"But he's been great, but that's no surprise because he is great."

Cashman said the team does have a date for arbitration with Judge, who turned down $17 million this spring, but would not disclose when it will be.

Judge had been clearly annoyed that hours before first pitch with the Red Sox, Cashman had come into the press conference room and laid down the details of the deal that he had turned down.

"It's something I felt like was private between my team and the Yankees," Judge said. "Cash has a job to do."

Cashman said there have been no lingering issues between him and Judge, saying Wednesday that he was not aware that the right-fielder had wanted to keep it private.

Judge is not playing like a man worried about his contract. He is slashing .290/.356/.626 with 10 home runs, 22 RBI and a .982 OPS.

Record for Chapman: Aroldis Chapman made it interesting, but he saved Wednesday's win for his 152nd save with the Yankees, surpassing Goose Gossage for sole possession of third place on the Bombers' all-time list.

Chapman gave up a leadoff double to Santiago Espinal, who advanced to third on a wild pitch. He walked pinch hitter Vinny Capra. Espinal scored on George Springer's sacrifice fly to right field, snapping a 13.1-inning scoreless streak and the first run that Chapman has allowed this season.

After Bo Bichette hit a long drive just foul into the seats, Chapman struck him out and then coaxed a harmless pop out from Vladimir Guerrero Jr. to end the game.

"I was encouraged actually, today," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "He falls behind and Espinal got a hit on the slider there 2-1 and then he walked the pinch hitter there. But I liked that he went in and really got after it with his fastball again, and when he did his fastball got better."

On the move: As expected, the Yankees sent right-handed reliever Ron Marinaccio back to Triple-A Scranton after Wednesday's game. They need the spot on the 26-man roster to activate Luis Gil, who will start Thursday's game.

Yankees

from Page 1

The Bombers have won six of the nine games they have played so far against the Blue Jays (17-15). It's just the ninth time in franchise history, and just the third time since 1959, that the Yankees won 22 of their first 30 games of the season. The last to do that was the 2003 Yankees team.

Torres, who was demoted from the starting shortstop job last season to sharing second base with LeMahieu this year, has been contributing to that run.

Wednesday, the 25-year-old hit a go-ahead three-run home run to right field in the fourth inning. The homer snapped an 0-for-11 skid and was his fourth homer in his last 11 games.

Nine of his 20 hits this season have gone for extra bases, that includes his two-run double in the sixth inning. The five RBI were one shy of his career high, the six he put on the Orioles in August 2019.

Those were the "good old days," for the young Torres when he dominated the Orioles on his way to hitting a career-high 38 home runs in 2019. The last two years, Torres was looking for that feeling again. He spent the first month of the winter working with new Yankees hitting coach Dillon Lawson to try and rediscover that.

And it's been there at times this season, Torres said.

"The first month of the season, [I've been] back and forth. Some days good, some days bad," Torres said of his swing. "First of all, I feel really good. I mean, my swing has gotten better and better. And I'm working hard every day to be the way I want to be. But so far, so good. I think confidence is back and that is the most important thing for me."

A confident and productive Torres is a big key for this team, also seeing him go to the opposite field with power — like he did with Wednesday's 361-foot homer to right field — is a good sign.

"I've felt swing wise, since spring training, he's been in a strong place. I feel like he's getting into strong positions in the batter's box to get off some good swings, and I feel like that's happening," Boone said.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	22	8	.733	—	—	8-2	W-3	14-4	8-4
Tampa Bay	18	13	.581	4 ½	—	6-4	L-3	9-7	9-6
Toronto	17	15	.531	6	—	3-7	L-4	10-6	7-9
Baltimore	13	17	.433	9	3	7-3	W-3	9-7	4-10
Boston	11	19	.367	11	5	3-7	W-1	4-9	7-10
CENTRAL	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**WCGB**	**L10**	**STR**	**HOME**	**AWAY**
Minnesota	18	12	.600	—	—	7-3	L-1	11-5	7-7
Chicago	15	14	.517	2 ½	½	8-2	W-1	8-7	7-7
Cleveland	15	15	.500	3	1	7-3	L-1	7-5	8-10
Kansas City	9	18	.333	7 ½	5 ½	2-8	L-3	6-9	3-9
Detroit	9	21	.300	9	7	2-8	L-1	5-11	4-10
WEST	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**WCGB**	**L10**	**STR**	**HOME**	**AWAY**
Los Angeles	21	11	.656	—	—	7-3	W-3	12-6	9-5
Houston	19	11	.633	1	—	8-2	W-8	9-4	10-7
Seattle	14	18	.438	7	3	2-8	L-1	9-7	5-11
Texas	12	16	.429	7	3	6-4	W-1	5-9	7-7
Oakland	12	19	.387	8 ½	4 ½	2-8	W-1	4-10	8-9

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	21	10	.677	—	—	6-4	W-2	9-5	12-5
Atlanta	14	17	.452	7	3	4-6	L-1	8-9	6-8
Miami	14	17	.452	7	3	2-8	W-1	6-7	8-10
Philadelphia	14	17	.452	7	3	4-6	W-1	9-9	5-8
Washington	10	21	.323	11	7	4-6	L-2	3-12	7-9
CENTRAL	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**WCGB**	**L10**	**STR**	**HOME**	**AWAY**
Milwaukee	20	12	.625	—	—	5-5	L-1	10-4	10-8
St. Louis	16	13	.552	2 ½	—	5-5	L-3	7-6	9-7
Pittsburgh	13	17	.433	6	3 ½	5-5	W-1	7-8	6-9
Chicago	11	19	.367	8	5 ½	3-7	W-1	4-11	7-8
Cincinnati	7	24	.226	12 ½	10	4-6	W-1	5-9	2-15
WEST	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**WCGB**	**L10**	**STR**	**HOME**	**AWAY**
Los Angeles	20	9	.690	—	—	7-3	L-1	10-2	10-7
San Diego	20	12	.625	1 ½	—	6-4	L-1	10-7	10-5
San Francisco	19	12	.613	2	—	5-5	W-5	11-7	8-5
Arizona	17	15	.531	4 ½	½	7-3	L-1	9-9	8-6
Colorado	16	15	.516	5	1	4-6	L-4	11-5	5-10

BOX SCORES

N.Y. YANKEES 5, TORONTO 3

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Springer dh	3	1	0	1	1	.283
Bichette ss	5	0	3	0	1	.252
Guerrero Jr. 1b	4	0	1	0	1	.286
Hernandez rf	4	1	1	1	1	.235
Gurriel Jr. lf	4	0	0	0	1	.235
Kirk c	4	0	2	0	0	.274
M.Chapman 3b	3	0	0	1	0	.189
Espinal 2b	4	1	1	0	1	.267
Tapia cf	3	0	1	0	1	.216
a-Capra ph	0	0	0	0	0	.000
TOTALS	**34**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**7**	
NY Yankees	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Hicks cf	4	0	0	0	1	.230
Judge dh	4	0	1	0	0	.288
Rizzo 1b	3	2	1	0	1	.234
LeMahieu 3b	4	2	2	0	1	.290
Torres 2b	4	1	2	5	0	.222
Gallo lf	4	0	1	0	1	.187
Kiner-Falefa ss	3	0	0	0	1	.256
Gonzalez rf	3	0	1	0	1	.250
Trevino c	3	0	0	0	0	.175
TOTALS	**32**	**5**	**8**	**5**	**6**	

Toronto	**100**	**001**	**001**	**—**	**3**	**9**	**0**
N.Y. Yankees	**000**	**302**	**00x**	**—**	**5**	**8**	**2**

a-walked for Tapia in the 9th.
E: Kiner-Falefa 2(4). **LOB:** Toronto 9, New York 4. **2B:** Kirk (2), Bichette (7), Espinal (12), LeMahieu (7).
HR: Torres (5), off Berrios.
RBIs: Hernandez (6), M.Chapman (15), Springer (18), Torres 5(18). **SB:** Hernandez (1).**SF:** M.Chapman, Springer.
Runners left in scoring position: Toronto 4(Kirk 2, Espinal, Guerrero Jr.); New York 2(Kiner-Falefa, Rizzo).
RISP: Toronto 0for 7; New York 2for 5.
Runners moved up: Gallo. **GIDP:** Guerrero Jr.. **DP:** New York 1(Torres, Rizzo).

TORONTO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Berrios, L, 2-2	5⅓	5	5	5	1	4	5.82
Richards	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	3.86
Thornton	1⅓	2	0	0	0	1	3.52
Borucki	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	6.75
NY YANKEES	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Taillon, W, 3-1	5⅓	6	2	2	1	4	2.93
King, H, 4	1	2	0	0	0	1	1.35
Holmes, H, 7	1⅔	0	0	0	0	1	0.55
A.Chapman, S, 8-8	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.79

Pitches-Strikes: Berríos 88-53; Richards 10-7; Thornton 23-17; Borucki 6-4; Taillon 85-56; King 14-11; Holmes 19-12; Chapman 18-10.
Inherited runners-scored: Richards 2-2, King 2-1, Holmes 2-0.
HBP: Taillon (Guerrero Jr.).
WP: A.Chapman.
Umpires: Home, Alfonso Marquez; First, Shane Livensparger; Second, Ramon De Jesus; Third, Lance Barrett.
T: 2:50. **A:** 42,105(47,309).

MIAMI 11, ARIZONA 3

Miami	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Chisholm Jr. 2b	5	1	1	3	1	.295
Cooper 1b	4	2	2	0	2	.263
Soler dh	5	1	1	0	2	.178
Wendle 3b	2	1	2	2	0	.304
Gonzalez 3b-ss	3	1	1	1	1	.143
Garcia rf	4	1	2	3	1	.204
M.Rojas ss	4	0	1	0	1	.202
b-Aguilar ph-3b	1	0	1	0	0	.267
Sanchez cf	4	2	0	0	0	.217
De La Cruz lf	4	1	2	0	0	.300
Stallings c	4	1	2	2	1	.200
TOTALS	**40**	**11**	**15**	**11**	**10**	
Arizona	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Varsho c	4	0	0	0	2	.245
P.Smith rf	2	0	0	0	0	.233
a-Luplow ph-rf	1	1	1	2	0	.242
Peralta lf	4	0	0	0	1	.211
Walker 1b	3	0	0	0	0	.187
J.Rojas 3b	3	0	0	0	1	.235
Marte 2b	4	0	0	0	1	.204
Beer dh	4	0	1	0	2	.208
Perdomo ss	3	0	0	0	0	.188
Thomas cf	3	2	2	1	1	.385
TOTALS	**31**	**3**	**4**	**3**	**8**	

Miami	**210**	**000**	**008**	**—**	**11**	**15**	**0**
Arizona	**001**	**000**	**020**	**—**	**3**	**4**	**0**

a-homered for P.Smith in the 8th.
b-singled for M.Rojas in the 9th.
LOB: Miami 5, Arizona 4. **2B:** Cooper (7).
HR: Wendle (2), off Kelly; Chisholm Jr. (6), off Melancon; Garcia (2), off Wendelken; Thomas (1), off Alcantara; Luplow (4), off Okert.
RBIs: Wendle 2 (10), Stallings 2 (12), Chisholm Jr. 3 (24), Gonzalez (1), Garcia 3 (7), Thomas (3), Luplow 2 (9).
SB: J.Rojas (1).
Runners left in scoring position: Miami 2(Soler 2); Arizona 2(Marte, Walker).
RISP: Miami 5for 7; Arizona 0for 2.
GIDP: Sanchez. **DP:** Arizona 1(Walker, Perdomo, Walker).

MIAMI	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Alcantara	7	2	1	1	3	6	2.74
Okert, BS, 0-1	⅔	2	2	2	0	1	3.24
Bass, W, 1-1	⅓	0	0	0	0	0	1.20
Sulser	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.70
ARIZONA	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Kelly	5	7	3	3	2	4	1.71
C.Smith	3	0	0	0	0	6	9.64
Melancon, L, 0-4	⅔	3	4	4	1	0	6.75
Wendelken	⅓	5	4	4	0	0	7.71

Pitches-Strikes: Alcantara 99-63; Okert 12-10; Bass 4-2; Sulser 9-7; Kelly 93-67; C Smith 38-29; Melancon 20-12; Wendelken 17-13.
WP: Alcantara.
Umpires: Home, Edwin Moscoso; First, Pat Hoberg; Second, Paul Emmel; Third, Bruce Dreckman.
T: 2:58. **A:** 9,058(48,686).

PHILADELPHIA 4, SEATTLE 2

Philadelphia	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Schwarber lf	4	0	0	0	3	.185
Bohm 3b	4	1	2	0	1	.311
Harper dh	3	1	1	0	0	.269
Castellanos rf	4	0	0	0	1	.300
Segura 2b	2	1	1	0	1	.299
Hoskins 1b	4	1	2	4	2	.222
Herrera cf	4	0	0	0	1	.262
Quinn cf	0	0	0	0	0	.167
Stott ss	4	0	0	0	3	.111
Stubbs c	3	0	1	0	1	.294
TOTALS	**32**	**4**	**7**	**4**	**13**	
Seattle	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Frazier 2b-rf	4	1	2	0	0	.270
France 1b	4	0	2	1	0	.325
Rodriguez cf	4	0	1	1	1	.254
Crawford ss	4	0	2	0	0	.333
E.Suarez 3b	4	0	0	0	1	.202
Torrens dh-c	4	0	0	0	2	.176
Winker lf	4	0	1	0	1	.204
Moore rf	2	1	0	0	1	.179
Mills p	0	0	0	0	0	---
Steckenrider p	0	0	0	0	0	---
b-Kelenic ph	1	0	0	0	1	.140
Raleigh c	2	0	0	0	2	.065
a-Toro ph-2b	2	0	0	0	1	.150
TOTALS	**35**	**2**	**8**	**2**	**10**	

Philadelphia	**000**	**400**	**000**	**—**	**4**	**7**	**0**
Seattle	**001**	**000**	**100**	**—**	**2**	**8**	**0**

a-struck out for Raleigh in the 7th.
b-struck out for Steckenrider in the 9th.
LOB: Philadelphia 4, Seattle 8.
2B: Frazier 2(8), Crawford (7).
HR: Hoskins (5), off Gilbert.
RBIs: Hoskins 4(16), Rodriguez (11), France (24). **SB:** Segura (2), Harper (6), Moore (2). **CS:** Bohm (1).
Runners left in scoring position: Philadelphia 3(Herrera 3); Seattle 3(France, Torrens, Rodriguez).
RISP: Philadelphia 1for 4; Seattle 2for 8.
Runners moved up: Castellanos.
GIDP: Schwarber.
DP: Seattle 1(Crawford, France).

PHILADELPHIA	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Falter	4⅔	5	1	1	0	4	3.75
Dominguez, W, 2-1	1⅓	1	0	0	0	2	3.09
Alvarado, H, 4	⅔	0	1	1	2	1	3.86
Familia, H, 4	1	2	0	0	0	1	2.53
Knebel, S, 6-7	1⅓	0	0	0	0	2	2.70
SEATTLE	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Gilbert, L, 4-1	5	3	4	4	3	9	2.13
Murfee	1	2	0	0	0	1	0.00
Misiewicz	1	1	0	0	0	0	2.08
Mills	1	0	0	0	0	1	1.17
Steckenrider	1	1	0	0	0	2	3.86

Inherited runners-scored: Dominguez 1-0, Familia 2-1, Knebel 1-0.
Umpires: Home, Brian Knight; First, Junior Valentine; Second, Bill Miller; Third, Doug Eddings.
T: 3:11. **A:** 16,387(47,929).

CHI. CUBS 7, SAN DIEGO 5

Chi. Cubs	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Ortega rf	5	0	2	0	0	.234
Contreras c	3	3	2	1	0	.304
Happ lf	3	1	0	0	1	.275
Wisdom 3b	4	1	2	1	1	.229
Rivas 1b	3	1	1	2	1	.289
Hoerner ss	1	0	0	0	1	.271
Vargas ss	3	0	0	0	1	.000
Schwindel dh	4	1	1	2	1	.202
Heyward cf	4	0	1	1	1	.222
Villar 2b	4	0	0	0	3	.243
TOTALS	**34**	**7**	**9**	**7**	**10**	
San Diego	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Cronenworth 2b	4	0	0	1	2	.214
Profar lf	4	1	2	0	0	.187
Machado 3b	4	0	2	0	2	.383
Hosmer 1b	5	1	3	2	0	.367
Myers rf	5	0	0	0	1	.203
Voit dh	5	3	3	2	0	.184
Kim ss	4	0	1	0	0	.200
Grisham cf	3	0	0	0	1	.144
Alfaro c	4	0	1	0	1	.226
TOTALS	**38**	**5**	**12**	**5**	**7**	

Chi. Cubs	**100**	**400**	**020**	**—**	**7**	**9**	**1**
San Diego	**110**	**001**	**200**	**—**	**5**	**12**	**0**

E: Contreras (2).
LOB: Chicago 3, San Diego 11.
2B: Schwindel (4), Ortega (6), Profar (6). **3B:** Profar (1).
HR: Contreras (4), off Martinez; Voit (1), off Thompson; Hosmer (4), off Givens; Voit (2), off Givens.
RBIs: Contreras (10), Wisdom (16), Schwindel 2(11), Heyward (3), Rivas 2 (10), Hosmer 2(21), Voit 2(7), Cronenworth (15). **CS:** Ortega (4).
Runners left in scoring position: Chicago 2(Wisdom, Schwindel); San Diego 4(Machado, Profar 2, Myers).
RISP: Chicago 5for 11; San Diego 1for 8.
Runners moved up: Happ, Vargas, Hosmer.
GIDP: Vargas, Hosmer, Myers.
DP: Chicago 2(Wisdom, Villar, Rivas; Vargas, Villar, Rivas); San Diego 1(Kim, Hosmer).

CHI. CUBS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Thompson	4	5	2	2	2	1	1.67
Martin	1	1	0	0	0	0	3.48
Effross, H, 2	1	2	1	1	0	2	1.98
Givens, W, 2-0	1	2	2	2	0	2	3.55
Wick, S, 2-2	2	2	0	0	0	2	0.77
SAN DIEGO	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Martinez	4	4	5	5	2	8	4.40
Crismatt	3	1	0	0	0	1	1.62
Garcia, L, 0-2	1	3	2	2	1	0	3.38
Stammen	1	1	0	0	0	1	3.09

HBP: Thompson (Grisham), Givens (Kim). **WP:** Martinez.
Umpires: Home, Ben May; First, Clint Vondrak; Second, Dan Iassogna; Third, Scott Barry. T: 3:26. **A:** 29,344(40,209).

LATE TUESDAY: BALTIMORE 5, ST. LOUIS 3

Baltimore	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Mullins cf	5	2	4	2	0	.262
Mancini dh	4	0	1	1	2	.279
Santander lf	5	0	3	1	0	.250
Hays rf	5	0	0	0	1	.312
Mountcastle 1b	3	0	0	0	1	.268
Nevin 3b	4	1	1	1	2	.167
Mateo ss	4	0	1	0	0	.242
Chirinos c	3	0	0	0	0	.136
Owings 2b	4	2	1	0	1	.130
TOTALS	**37**	**5**	**11**	**5**	**7**	
St. Louis	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Edman 2b	4	0	1	0	3	.290
Goldschmidt 1b	4	0	1	0	1	.283
Arenado 3b	4	0	0	0	2	.318
Yepez dh	3	0	1	0	1	.455
1-Robertson pr	0	0	0	0	0	---
O'Neill lf	4	0	0	0	3	.198
Carlson rf	3	0	1	0	1	.223
Molina c	3	1	1	0	0	.234
Bader cf	3	1	1	2	0	.242
Donovan ss	3	1	1	1	1	.188
TOTALS	**31**	**3**	**7**	**3**	**12**	

Baltimore	**002**	**111**	**000**	**—**	**5**	**11**	**0**
St. Louis	**000**	**002**	**001**	**—**	**3**	**7**	**0**

1-ran for Yepez in the 9th. **LOB:** Baltimore 8, St. Louis 2. **2B:** Owings (1), Santander (3), Mateo (7), Molina (2).
HR: Mullins (5), off Naughton; Nevin (1), off Naughton; Bader (3), off Bradish; Donovan (1), off Tate.
RBIs: Mullins 2(14), Nevin (5), Santander (13), Mancini (11), Bader 2 (10), Donovan (2). **SB:** Mullins (5).
Runners left in scoring position: Baltimore 4(Hays, Santander, Nevin 2); St. Louis 1(O'Neill). **RISP:** Baltimore 3for 8; St. Louis 1for 2. **GIDP:** Carlson, Molina, Arenado. **DP:** Baltimore 3(Nevin, Owings, Mountcastle; Mateo, Mountcastle; Mateo, Owings, Mountcastle); St. Louis 1(Arenado, Donovan).

BALTIMORE	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Bradish, W, 1-1	7	4	2	2	0	11	4.24
Krehbiel, H, 3	1	1	0	0	0	0	2.92
Tate, H, 4	⅔	2	1	1	0	0	2.45
Bautista, S, 1-1	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	2.13
ST. LOUIS	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Naughton, L, 0-1	3⅓	5	3	3	0	2	4.26
Whitley	1⅓	2	1	1	1	2	4.50
Wittgren	1⅓	3	1	1	0	1	3.09
Pallante	1	0	0	0	0	1	1.20
McFarland	2	1	0	0	0	1	4.35

Inherited runners-scored: Bautista 2-0, Wittgren 3-0.
HBP: Whitley (Mancini), Wittgren (Chirinos), Tate (Yepez). **WP:** Tate.
Umpires: Home, Angel Hernandez; First, James Hoye; Second, D.J. Reyburn; Third, Jeremy Riggs.
T: 2:53. **A:** 33,649(45,494).

LATE TUESDAY: N.Y. METS 4, WASHINGTON 2

NY Mets	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Nimmo cf	4	0	1	0	2	.269
Canha lf	5	1	0	0	0	.291
Do.Smith 1b	0	0	0	0	0	.204
Lindor ss	5	0	2	0	2	.246
Alonso 1b	2	1	1	0	1	.280
1-Jankowski lf	0	0	0	0	0	.321
Davis dh	3	1	1	1	0	.238
Marte rf	5	0	0	0	3	.263
E.Escobar 3b	4	1	0	0	2	.215
McNeil 2b	3	0	2	2	0	.333
McCann c	3	0	1	1	0	.196
TOTALS	**34**	**4**	**8**	**4**	**10**	
Washington	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
C.Hernandez 2b	4	0	0	0	3	.271
Soto rf	4	0	1	0	0	.257
Bell 1b	4	1	2	0	1	.349
Cruz dh	4	0	2	0	1	.170
Y.Hernandez lf	4	0	0	0	1	.346
Franco 3b	3	0	1	1	0	.282
Strge-Gordon ss	3	0	1	0	0	.200
Adams c	3	1	1	1	0	.182
Robles cf	2	0	0	0	1	.227
TOTALS	**31**	**2**	**8**	**2**	**7**	

N.Y. Mets	**000**	**003**	**001**	**—**	**4**	**8**	**0**
Washington	**000**	**110**	**000**	**—**	**2**	**8**	**2**

1-ran for Alonso in the 9th. **E:** Strange-Gordon (1), Franco (5). **LOB:** New York 12, Washington 3. **2B:** McNeil (8), Franco (9).
HR: Adams (2), off Carrasco.
RBIs: McNeil 2(12), McCann (6), Davis (4), Franco (17), Adams (3). **SB:** Lindor (4). **CS:** Strange-Gordon (1).
SF: McCann, Davis.
Runners left in scoring position: New York 8(E.Escobar 3, Marte, Canha, Lindor, Nimmo 2); Washington 0.
RISP: New York 2for 14; Washington 1 for 2. **Runners moved up:** McCann 2.
GIDP: Davis, Bell, Y.Hernandez. **DP:** New York 2(McNeil, Lindor, Alonso; McNeil, Lindor, Do.Smith); Washington 1(C.Hernandez, Strange-Gordon, Bell).

NY METS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Carrasco, W, 3-1	6⅔	7	2	2	0	5	3.19
Dr.Smith, H, 8	1	0	0	0	1	1	0.00
Rodriguez, H, 4	⅓	0	0	0	0	0	4.50
Diaz, S, 7-8	1	1	0	0	0	1	1.38
WASHINGTON	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Corbin	5	3	0	0	4	5	6.06
Edwards Jr., L, 0-1, BS, 0-1	1	3	3	3	1	2	27.00
Cishek	1	0	0	0	1	2	4.91
Ramirez	2	2	1	0	1	1	2.31

Inherited runners-scored: Dr.Smith 1-0, Rodriguez 1-0.
IBB: off Ramirez (Alonso).
Umpires: Home, Ryan Wills; First, Tripp Gibson; Second, Chad Fairchild; Third, Laz Diaz. T: 3:08. **A:** 21,955(41,339).

LATE TUESDAY: SAN DIEGO 5, CHI. CUBS 4

Chi. Cubs	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Ortega rf	4	1	2	0	1	.220
a-Suzuki ph	1	0	1	0	0	.255
1-Vargas pr	0	1	0	0	0	---
Contreras c	3	0	2	0	0	.292
Happ lf	5	1	2	1	1	.284
Wisdom 3b	4	0	0	0	3	.217
Rivas 1b	4	1	1	2	2	.286
b-Schwindel ph	1	0	0	0	0	.200
Hoerner ss	4	0	1	0	1	.274
Heyward cf	3	0	0	0	1	.220
Gomes dh	4	0	0	0	1	.204
Villar 2b	4	0	1	0	2	.258
TOTALS	**37**	**4**	**10**	**3**	**12**	
San Diego	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Cronenworth 2b	5	1	3	0	1	.221
Profar lf	5	1	2	0	0	.175
Machado 3b	3	1	1	1	0	.379
Hosmer 1b	4	1	2	1	0	.356
Myers rf	4	0	1	1	1	.220
Voit dh	2	1	0	0	1	.136
Kim ss	2	0	0	1	1	.197
Nola c	4	0	2	1	1	.207
Azocar cf	4	0	0	0	2	.194
TOTALS	**33**	**5**	**11**	**5**	**7**	

Chi. Cubs	**002**	**010**	**001**	**—**	**4**	**10**	**0**
San Diego	**201**	**002**	**00x**	**—**	**5**	**11**	**1**

a-singled for Ortega in the 9th. b-flied out for Rivas in the 9th. 1-ran for Suzuki in the 9th. **E:** Nola (4). **LOB:** Chicago 10, San Diego 9. **2B:** Cronenworth 2(4), Nola (2), Machado (8).
HR: Rivas (2), off Clevinger.
RBIs: Rivas 2(8), Happ (15), Myers (8), Kim (12), Nola (10), Machado (22), Hosmer (19). SB: Happ 2(2). **Runners left in scoring position:** Chicago 6 (Ortega, Schwindel 2, Rivas 3); San Diego 5(Azocar, Nola 2, Hosmer, Myers). **RISP:** Chicago 2for 11; San Diego 5for 12. **GIDP:** Machado. **DP:** Chicago 1(Wisdom, Rivas).

CHICAGO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Miley	3	5	3	3	5	1	9.00
Gsellman, L, 0-1	2⅔	3	1	1	0	2	7.11
Martin	⅓	3	1	1	0	1	3.86
Givens	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.31
Norris	1	0	0	0	0	1	6.75
SAN DIEGO	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Clevinger	4⅓	6	3	2	2	6	5.00
Wilson, W, 3-0	1⅔	0	0	0	0	1	2.63
Suarez, H, 3	1	1	0	0	0	2	3.60
Garcia, H, 6	1	1	0	0	0	2	1.86
Rogers, S, 12-13	1	2	1	1	0	1	0.71

Inherited runners-scored: Martin 1-1, Wilson 2-1.
HBP: Rogers 2(Contreras,Wisdom).
WP: Wilson.
Umpires: Home, Scott Barry; First, Ben May; Second, Clint Vondrak; Third, Dan Iassogna. T: 3:08. **A:** 31,047(40,209).

LATE TUESDAY: L.A. ANGELS 12, TAMPA BAY 0

Tampa Bay	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Diaz 1b	4	0	0	0	0	.275
Franco ss	2	0	0	0	0	.317
Phillips rf-p	1	0	0	0	0	.143
Ramirez dh-rf	3	0	0	0	0	.300
Arozarena lf	3	0	0	0	0	.229
Lowe 2b	3	0	0	0	0	.200
Zunino c	3	0	0	0	1	.138
Walls 3b-ss	2	0	0	0	0	.186
Brujan rf-3b	3	0	0	0	1	.000
Kiermaier cf	3	0	0	0	0	.176
TOTALS	**27**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**2**	
LA Angels	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Marsh lf	4	2	2	1	1	.267
Trout cf	4	3	3	3	0	.337
Ohtani dh	5	1	2	0	0	.258

BRUINS

Rookie Swayman gets nod in goal in Game 6

By Steve Conroy
Boston Herald

BOSTON — Jeremy Swayman was not great in the Bruins' 5-1 loss in Game 5 at Carolina on Tuesday. But with the Bruins' backs straight up against the wall, that fact did little to shake the faith that coach Bruce Cassidy has in the rookie netminder.

Cassidy did not hesitate when asked on Wednesday for his starting goaltender for Thursday's must-win Game 6 at the Garden. He's going back with Swayman.

This will be the first time Swayman will have started four consecutive games this year. In fact, his start in Game 5 was only the second time that he had started three straight games. But Cassidy and his staff have not sensed any fatigue in the 23-year-old Swayman.

But he'll need to be better than he was on Tuesday, and the coach acknowledged that. And in the games in Boston, Swayman has been better.

"I don't think he looked his best (Tuesday)," said Cassidy. "What's happened, and I'll go to Game 3. Big, big saves early on (Tony) DeAngelo and the breakaway to (Jordan) Martinook. It gives us a little bit of 'Hey, let's find our game, even though they scored first. Those are important, timely saves. (Tuesday) night we didn't get it. (Before) the first goal, we're on them, another good start and we need that save early. It's one you need to keep you in it. It didn't happen, it gives them a little bit of life in their building. They've lost two in a row. They get a lead...They got timely saves and we didn't and then they got some life from there and I'm not going to put it on the goaltender. Those are the saves we got at home that we're going to need to (Thursday)."



Boston Bruins' Jeremy Swayman deflects the puck in the third period of Game 4 on Sunday against the Carolina Hurricanesin Boston. **STEVEN SENNE/AP**

While the first goal was a costly one, Cassidy saw improvement in his goalie as the game went along, saying the second goal — DeAngelo's power-play slapper — was the result of a screen, as well as a simple sounding characteristic. And Cassidy used those goals against to challenge his own skaters.

"Both goals hit the net," said Cassidy "That is important. We've stressed that over and over. Get it on net, from your D-men, you never know. So give them credit. They hit the net on both shots. The first one (Jaccob Slavin's goal) we need that save, the second one the puck has eyes and it's got some velocity to it. And good for them. The third goal is just puck luck. Give (Seth) Jarvis a lot of credit. He's hanging around the front of the net, so I'm not going to take anything away from him. But that's a goal that goes in once a month....But I give him credit for being around the net and dirty areas. He's a young kid that's done a good job with that. We need a little more of that with our mentality with our guys who have been in the league. He's not a big guy, Jarvis, but he found a way to get to the net front and that's effective playoffs hockey."

Lindholm probable: Cassidy expects Hampus Lindholm, outmsince Game 2 after absorbing a huge hit from Andrei Svechnikov, to play in Game 6. The big defenseman skated with the extra players at Warrior Ice Arena on Wednesday. Cassidy said he'll have a more definitive answer in the morning.

If Lindholm is ready, Cassidy acknowledged that that would leave him with a decision between Matt Grzelcyk and Mike Reilly as the odd man out. While the third pairing of Derek Forbort and Connor Clifton may not have quite as good in Game 5 as it had been in the first four games, Cassidy said the duo has pretty much done its job,and then some. Also Lindholm, Reilly and Grzelcyk all bring certain puck-moving qualities while shot-eating Forbort brings a unique quality that he wouldn't want to take out of the lineup.



Harold Varner III follows his shot off the first tee during the final round of the PGA Zurich Classic golf tournament at TPC Louisiana on April 24 in Avondale, La.. **GERALD HERBERT/AP**

GOLF

Harold Varner III joins 2022 Travelers Championship field

Hartford Courant

Harold Varner III has committed to play in the 2022 Travelers Championship, the tournament announced on Wednesday.

Varner has three top-10 finishes on the PGA Tour this season. In March, he tied for sixth at The Players Championship, and in April, he tied for third at the RBC Heritage and tied for fourth in New Orleans.

"Harold has been playing great golf and we're excited to welcome him back to the Travelers Championship next month," said Travelers Championship tournament director Nathan Grube, according to the release. "We're very fortunate to have the best golfers in the world support our tournament by playing in front of our enthusiastic fans. It makes for a fun week that generates a lot of good for this community."

Varner is currently No. 36 in the Official World Golf Ranking. This will be Varner's sixth straight appearance at TPC River Highlands.

Varner's best PGA Tour finish of his career came at the 2021 RBC Heritage, when he tied for second. He has two international victories including the PIF Saudi International in February and the Australian PGA Championship in 2016.

"Harold is one of the great professionals on the PGA Tour and has been near the top of the leaderboard at so many tournaments lately," said Andy Bessette, executive vice president and chief administrative officer at Travelers. "Outside of golf, Harold is a caring and generous person who has put the Travelers Championship on his calendar year after year. I appreciate Harold's continued support, and it will be great to see him again in June."

Varner joins a players field that includes Scottie Scheffler, Patrick Cantlay, Rory McIlroy, Justin Thomas, Dustin Johnson, Xander Schauffele, Brooks Koepka, Bubba Watson and defending Travelers champion Harris English.

The 2022 Travelers Championship will be held at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell on June 20-26. To purchase tickets or for tournament updates, visit TravelersChampionship.com.



UConn's Meghan O'Neil was 12-7 with a 2.98 ERA. **ADAM HUNGER/AP**

Softball

from Page 1

The Huskies (36-16, 20-4) clinched the regular-season conference title last Friday on Jana Sanden's two-run single in the ninth inning to beat Villanova 4-3. It was UConn's 11th walk-off win.

"I know the players were excited and overwhelmed with joy," Valentino said. "What a way to do it in UConn softball fashion. There's nothing like coming down to the last out of the game and winning on a walk-off. That's the personality of this team, and I'm really proud. That's step one, but our expectation is to win the conference and that's what we came here to do."

UConn has a .280 team batting average and outscored opponents 275-173 but having multiple pitchers they can trust will be the key to the Huskies' chances of surviving the double-elimination tournament and capturing the conference's automatic NCAA bid.

Sokolsky, who led the team with 146 innings pitched and 167 strikeouts, was 12-1 in conference play.

"What's unique about Elise is she is someone who can be challenged," Valentino said. "You can ask her to step up and do better and that's awesome as a coach, to be able to go up to a kid and demand more of them, challenge them to do better and they respond. Elise has responded all year and gotten better and better as the year has gone on. She just wills the ball by people."

O'Neil, a junior lefthander, led the team with 21 starts and struck out 119, walking 28, in 115 innings.

"Meghan started off the year throwing well, then kind of hit a little bump in the road," Valentino said. "Seeing her throw [much better] the last couple of weekends, she never let up work ethicwise and constantly wanted to know what she could do better to help the team succeed."

Righthander Olson, a graduate student, leads the team with three saves. She uses more off-speed pitches than her teammates and has been effective as a starter and reliever with 66 strikeouts in 51 innings. A starter earlier in her career, she threw a no-hitter in 2020.

"She's a courageous kid who has been through a lot in her career, medically," Valentino said. "It's so neat to see a fifth-year senior performing in these last couple of weeks. She complements our staff really well and it speaks volumes about her willingness to buy into the role of being a closer. Overall, the staff wants to see each other do well and they put the program first."

Valentino was studying matchups earlier in the week with her staff to decide how to roll out her three pitchers. The Huskies arrived in Chicago on Tuesday.

UConn played in eight NCAA tournaments in 13 years between 1989 and 2001 but has not been back since. Reaching an NCAA regional in 2022 would be a milepost for Valentino, 74-41 since taking over the program. Last May, UConn was one win away, losing a doubleheader to Villanova on the final day of the Big East Tournament in Storrs.

"At the beginning of the year, that was a lot of the talk, 'This happened last year,' " Valentino said. "Now that we're the regular-season champs, the focus has shifted to taking it one game at a time and playing our best version of UConn softball. I really feel great about our team focusing on us."

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com.

Transfer

from Page 1

watching me and the team next year."

Diarra was ranked No. 82 by 247sports in the Class of 2020. He played three seasons at Putnam Science Academy under basketball coach Tom Espinosa.

"He has a lot of guts," Espinosa said. "He can take the big shot. Lots of self-confidence; high IQ, he's a smart kid. He wants the ball on the biggest stage. He's a winner."

UConn had eight players leave the roster from the 2021-22 team. Isaiah Whaley and forward Tyler Polley exhausted their eligibility, while guards R.J. Cole and Tyrese Martin turned pro.

Akok Akok, Rahsool Diggins, Corey Floyd Jr. and Jalen Gaffney also entered their names in the NCAA transfer portal.

Two players transferred to other Big East Conference schools: Akok to Georgetown and Floyd to Providence. Gaffney headed to Florida Atlantic University, while Diggins will play at UMass next season.

With the addition of Diarra, UConn has three scholarship spots left.

Nets

from Page 1

over four years. His play seems worthy of it, as Irving averaged 27.4 points last season, which would have ranked eighth in the league.

But he played only 29 games in the second straight season in which he missed games when he wasn't hurt. Irving took a leave of absence from the team during the 2021-22 season, missing nine games for personal reasons.

This time, Marks acknowledged that Irving's absences put an extra workload on Durant. He said the Nets need to have deep discussions after this season, including about their players' intentions. Irving never specified why he wouldn't get vaccinated, saying it was a personal choice.

"What drives them? Do they want to be part of this? Are they motivated by something that maybe is not good for the whole team?" Marks said. "So those are questions we're going to have to ask ourselves and also the players that we want to bring back in here."

Marks provided good news on Ben Simmons, whom he said is already feeling better after having back surgery last week to relieve pain from a herniated disk. Simmons never played for the Nets after they acquired the former No. 1 pick from Philadelphia in February.

With Durant, Irving and Simmons, the Nets would have three potential stars who could quickly get them to where they thought they could be this season. But Marks didn't commit to Irving being part of the future, while also noting that Irving has his own decisions to make.

Rangers

from Page 1

the salary-cap space next season to be able to keep all those players, so decisions must be made about who Drury brings back, and who he doesn't.

The biggest question is whether second-line center Ryan Strome, scheduled to be an unrestricted free agent, returns. Strome and the Rangers have been unable to negotiate a contract extension all season, so it's no lock that they'll be able to reach agreement in the summer, when Strome can test the market.

An alternative to Strome could be Copp, who is also scheduled to be a free agent. Copp has been a perfect fit playing on the right wing with Strome and Artemi Panarin, but he could slide to the middle and replace Strome on the line if Strome isn't here next season.

Copp is slightly bigger (both are listed at 6-1, but Copp is 206 pounds, Strome 191), and a better faceoff man. He's a year younger (27, while Strome is 28) and is a lefthanded shot, where Strome is righthanded. That might give the power play more options, given that Chris Kreider was the only lefthander on the top power-play unit during the season.

Strome scored 21 goals and had 33 assists in 74 games; Copp had a combined 21 goals and 32 assists in 72 games for Winnipeg and the Rangers. In the playoffs, Strome had a goal and two assists entering Game 5; Copp had three goals.



New York Rangers' Ryan Strome celebrates after scoring a goal during the second period of Game 2 of an NHL hockey Stanley Cup first-round playoff series against the Pittsburgh Penguins on May 5 in New York. **FRANK FRANKLIN II/ AP**

SCOREBOARD

NBA

PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

EAST CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
#1 Miami 3, #4 Philadelphia 2
May 2: Miami 106-92
May 4: Miami 119-103
May 6: Philadelphia 99-79
May 8: Philadelphia 116-108.
May 10: Miami 120-85.
Thursday: at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
x-Sunday: at at Miami, TBD

#2 Boston 2, #3 Milwaukee 2
May 1: Milwaukee 101-89
May 3: Boston 109-86.
May 7: Milwaukee 103-101.
May 9: Boston 116-108.
Wednesday: at Boston, late
Friday: at Milwaukee, TBD
x-Sunday: at Boston, 3:30 p.m.

WEST CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
#1 Phoenix 3, #4 Dallas 2
May 2: Phoenix 121-114.
May 4: at Phoenix 129-109
May 6: Dallas 103-94
May 8: Dallas 111-101.
May 10: Phoenix 110-80
Thursday: at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.
xSunday: at Phoenix, TBD

#3 Golden State 3, #2 Memphis 1
May 1: Golden State 117-116
May 3: Memphis 106-101
May 7: Golden State 142-112
May 9: at Golden State, 101-98.
Wednesday: at Memphis, late
x-Friday: at Golden State, 10 p.m.
x-May 16: at Memphis, 8:30 p.m.

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

VOTING	1	2	3	4	5	PT
Nikola Jokic, Den	65	27	6	2	0	875
Joel Embiid, Phi	26	39	34	1	0	706
Giannis Antetokounmpo, Mil	9	32	52	7	0	595
Devin Booker, Phx	0	1	8	49	22	216
Luka Doncic, Dal	0	1	0	32	43	146
Jason Tatum, Bos	0	0	0	8	19	43
Ja Morant, Mem	0	0	0	1	7	10
Stephen Curry, GS	0	0	0	0	4	4
Chris Paul, Phx	0	0	0	0	2	2
DeMar DeRozan, Chi	0	0	0	0	1	1
LeBron James, LAL	0	0	0	0	1	1
Kevin Durant, Brk	0	0	0	0	1	1

RECENT MOST VALUABLE PLAYERS
u-unanimous
2021-22: Nikola Jokic, Denver
2019-20: Giannis Antetokounmpo, Mil
2018: James Harden, Houston
2017: Russell Westbrook, Oikla. City
2016: u-Stephen Curry, Golden State
2015: Stephen Curry, Golden State
2014: Kevin Durant, Oklahoma City
2012-13: LeBron James, Miami
2011: Derrick Rose, Chicago
2009-10: LeBron James, Cleveland
2008: Kobe Bryant, L.A. Lakers

NFL

2022 SEASON OPPONENTS

Regular season schedule expected to be announced Thursday.
NFC EAST
Dallas
H: NYG, Phi, Was, Chi, Det, Hou, Ind, TB, Cin
A: NYG, Phi, Was, GB, Min, Jax, Ten, LAR
N.Y. Giants
H: Dal, Was, Phi, Chi, Det, Hou, Ind, Car, Bal
A: Dal, Was, Phi, GB, Jax, Min, Ten, Sea
Philadelphia
H: NYG, Dal, Was, Min, GB, Ten, Jax, Pit, NO
A: NYG, Dal, Was, Ind, Hou, Chi, Det, Ari
Washington
H: Dal, Phi, NYG, GB, Min, Jax, Ten, Cle, Atl
A: Dal, Phi, NYG, Chi, Det, Hou, Ind, SF

NFC NORTH
Chicago
H: Det, Min, GB, Phi, Was, Buf, Mia, SF, Hou
A: Det, Min, GB, Dal, NYG, NE, NYJ, Atl
Detroit
H: GB, Chi, Min, Phi, Was, Buf, Mia, Jax, Sea
A: GB, Chi, Min, Dal, NYG, NYJ, NE, Car
Green Bay
H: Chi, Det, Min, Dal, NYG, NE, NYJ, Ten, LAR
A: Chi, Det, Min, Buf, Mia, Phi, Was, TB
Minnesota
H: Chi, GB, Det, Dal, NYG, NE, NYJ, Ind, Ari
A: Chi, GB, Det, Buf, Mia, Phi, NO, Was

NFC SOUTH
Atlanta
H: Ari, SF, Cle, Pit, Car, NO, TB, Chi, LAC
A: TB, Car, NO, Bal, Cin, LAR, Sea, Was
Carolina
H: Ari, Atl, Cle, Den, Det, NO, Pit, SF, TB
A: Atl, Bal, Cin, LAR, NO, NYG, Sea, TB
New Orleans
H: TB, Atl, Car, LAR, Sea, Min, Cin, Bal, LVR
A: TB, Atl, Car, Phi, SF, Ari, Cle, Pit
Tampa Bay
H: GB, KC, LAR, Cin, Sea, Bal, Car, NO, Atl
A: Ari, SF, Pit, Cle, NO, Atl, Car, Dal

NFC WEST
Arizona
H: LAR, SF, Sea, NO, TB, KC, LAC, Phi, NE
A: LAR, SF, Sea, Atl, Car, Den, LVR, Min
L.A. Rams
H: Sea, SF, Ari, Car, Atl, Dal, LVR, Den, Buf
A: Sea, SF, Ari, NO, TB, GB, KC, LAC
San Francisco
H: Ari, LAR, Sea, TB, LAC, KC, Mia, NO, Was
A: Ari, LAR, Sea, Chi, Den, Atl, Car, LVR
Seattle
H: SF, LAR, Ari, Atl, Car, LVR, Den, NYG, NYJ
A: SF, LAR, Ari, TB, NO, LAC, KC, Det

AFC EAST
Buffalo
H: GB, Min, Pit, Cle, Ten, NE, Mia, NYJ
A: Bal, Cin, Chi, Det, KC, LAR, NE, Mia, NYJ
Miami
H: Buf, NYJ, NE, Min, GB, Cle, Pit, Hou
A: Buf, NYJ, NE, Cin, Bal, Chi, Det, SF, LAC
New England
H: Bal, Cin, Ind, Chi, Det, Buf, Mia, NYJ
A: Cle, Pit, LVR, GB, Min, Ari, Buf, Mia, NYJ
N.Y. Jets
H: Buf, Mia, NE, Cin, Bal, Jax, Det, Chi
A: Buf, Mia, NE, Pit, Cle, Den, GB, Min, Sea

AFC NORTH
Baltimore
H: Cin, Cle, Pit, Buf, Mia, Atl, Car, Den
A: Cin, Cle, Pit, NE, NYJ, NO, TB, Jax, NYG
Cincinnati
H: Atl, Bal, Buf, Car, Cle, KC, Mia, Pit
A: Bal, Cle, Dal, NE, NO, NYJ, Pit, TB, Ten
Cleveland
H: NYJ, Cin, Pit, Bal, NE, NO, TB, LAC
A: Atl, Bal, Buf, Car, Cin, Pit, Mia, Hou, Was
Pittsburgh
H: Bal, Cin, Cle, NE, NYJ, NO, TB, LVR
A: Atl, Bal, Buf, Car, Cin, Cle, Mia, Ind, Phi

AFC SOUTH
Houston
H: Ten, Ind, Jax, Cle, KC, LAC, Phi, Was
A: Ten, Ind, Jax, Den, Chi, Dal, Mia, NYG, LVR
Indianapolis
H: Ten, Hou, Jax, KC, LAC, Phi, Was, Pit
A: Ten, Hou, Jax, Dal, Den, LVR, NYG, NE, Min
Jacksonville
H: Hou, Ind, Ten, Den, LVR, Dal, NYG, Bal
A: Hou, Ind, Ten, KC, LAC, Phi, Was, NYJ, Det
Tennessee
H: Hou, Ind, Jax, Den, LVR, Dal, NYG, Cin
A: Hou, Ind, Jax, KC, LAC, Phi, Was, GB, Buf

AFC WEST
Denver
H: KC, LVR, LAC, Hou, Ind, Ari, SF, NYJ
A: KC, LVR, LAC, Jax, Ten, LAR, Sea, Bal, Car
Kansas City
H: Den, LVR, LAC, Jax, Ten, LAR, Sea, Buf
A: Den, LVR, LAC, Hou, Ind, SF, Ari, Cin, TB.
Las Vegas
H: Den, KC, LAC, Hou, Ind, Ari, SF, NE
A: Den, KC, LAC, Jax, LAR, Sea, Ten, Pit, NO
L.A. Chargers
H: Den, KC, LVR, Jax, Ten, LAR, Sea, Mia
A: Ari, Den, Hou, Ind, KC, LVR, SF, Atl, Cle

NHL

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Carolina 3, Boston 2
May 2: Carolina 5-1
May 4: Carolina 5-2
May 6: Boston 4-2
May 8: Boston, 5-2.
May 10: Carolina, 5-1.
Thursday: at Boston, 7 p.m.
x-Saturday: at Carolina, TBD

Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Rangers 1
May 3: Pittsburgh 4-3 (3OT)
May 5: N.Y. Rangers 5-2
May 7: Pittsburgh 7-4
May 9: Pittsburgh 7-2.
Wednesday: at N.Y. Rangers, late
x-Friday: at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
x-Sunday: at N.Y. Rangers, TBD

Toronto 3, Tampa Bay 2
May 2: Toronto 5-0
May 4: Tampa Bay 5-3
May 6: Toronto 5-2
May 8: Tampa Bay 7-3.
May 10: Toronto 4-3.
Thursday: at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
x-Saturday: at Toronto, TBD

Washington 2, Florida 2
May 3: Washington 4-2
May 5: Florida 5-1
May 7: Washington 6-1
May 9: Florida 3-2 (OT)
Wednesday: at Florida, late
Friday: at Washington, TBD
x-Sunday: at Florida, TBD

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Dallas 2, Calgary 2
May 3: Calgary 1-0
May 5: Dallas 2-0
May 7: Dallas 4-2.
May 9: Calgary 4-1.
Wednesday: at Calgary, late
Friday: at Dallas, 9;30 p.m.
x-Sunday: at Calgary, TBD

Los Angeles 3, Edmonton 2
May 2: Los Angeles 4-3
May 4: Edmonton 6-0
May 6: Edmonton 8-2
May 8: Los Angeles 4-0.
May 10: Los Angeles 5-4 (OT).
Thursday: at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.
x-Saturday: at Edmonton, TBD

Colorado 4, Nashville 0
May 3: Colorado 7-2
May 5: Colorado 2-1 (OT)
May 7: Colorado 7-3
May 9: Colorado 5-3.

St. Louis 3, Minnesota 2
May 2: St. Louis 4-0
May 4: Minnesota 6-2
May 6: Minnesota 5-1
May 8: St. Louis 5-2.
May 10: St. Louis 5-2
Thursday: at St. Louis, 9:30 p.m.
x-Saturday: at Minnesota, TBD

TENNIS

INTERNAZIONALI BNL D'ITALIA

At Foro Italico, Rome; Red clay-outdoor
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#2 Alexander Zverev d. Sebastian Baez, 7-6(6), 6-3.
#3 Rafael Nadal d. John Isner, 6-3, 6-1.
#4 Stefanos Tsitsipas d. Grigor Dimitrov, 6-3, 5-7, 7-6(4).
Marin Cilic d. #9 Cameron Norrie, 5-7, 6-2, 6-1.
#10 Jannik Sinner d. Fabio Fognini, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.
Marcos Giron d. #12 Diego Schwartzman, 6-1, 7-6(4).
Karen Khachanov d. #15 Pablo Carreno Busta, 6-4, 2-6, 6-1.
Alex de Minaur d. Tommy Paul, 7-5, 6-4.
Jenson Brooksby d. David Goffin, 6-0, 7-6(1).
Stan Wawrinka d. Laslo Djere, 7-6(8), 3-6, 6-4.
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#1 Iga Swiatek d. Elena-Gabriela Ruse, 6-3, 6-0.
Amanda Anisimova d. #12 Belinda Bencic, 7-6(5), 6-1.
#2 Paula Badosa d. Aliaksandra Sasnovich, 6-2, 6-1.
#3 Aryna Sabalenka d. Zhang Shuai, 6-2, 6-0.
#4 Maria Sakkari d. Ekaterina Alexandrova, 6-3, 6-2.
Petra Martic d. #5 Anett Kontaveit, 6-2, 6-3.
Jil Teichmann d. #6 Karolina Pliskova, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4.
#7 Danielle Collins d. Simona Halep, 7-6(1), 6-3.
Yulia Putintseva d. #8 Garbine Muguruza, 3-6, 7-6(4), 6-1.
#9 Ons Jabeur d. Ajla Tomljanovic, 7-5, 6-2.
#13 Jessica Pegula d. Anhelina Kalinina, walkover.
#15 Coco Gauff d. Madison Brengle, 6-2, 6-4.
#16 Victoria Azarenka d. Maria Camila Osorio Serrano 6-2, 6-4.
Bianca Andreescu d. Nuria Parrizas Diaz, 6-3, 7-6(4).
Daria Kasatkina d. Leylah Annie Fernandez, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(2).
Elena Rybakina d. Lauren Davis, 6-4, 6-3.

WTA TROPHEE LAGARDERE

At Lagardère Paris Racing Club, Paris; clay-outdoors
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#1 Daia Kanepi d. Linda Fruhvirtova, 7-6(4), 6-4.
Ana Bogdan d. #2 Magda Linette, 7-6(4), 6-0.
#7 Claire Liu d. Anastasia Gasanova, 6-4, 6-4.
#8 Magdalena Frech d. Diane Parry, 6-1, 3-6, 7-6(5).

WTA LIQUI MOLY OPEN

Karlsruhe, Germany; clay-outdoors
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#1 Alison Van Uytvanck d. Tamara Korpatsch, 6-4, 6-1.
Julie Niemeier d. Mandy Minella, 6-3, 6-4.
Bernarda Pera d. Nastasja Mariana Schunk, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.
Anna-Lena Friedsam d. Ella Seidel, 6-1, 6-3.
Mihaela Buzernescu d. Tatjana Maria, 1-6, 6-4, 6-2.
Dalma Galfi d. Aleksandra krunic, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1.

WNBA

EASTERN	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	3	0	1.000	—
Atlanta	1	0	1.000	1
New York	1	0	1.000	1
Chicago	0	1	.000	2
Connecticut	0	1	.000	2
Indiana	1	2	.333	2
WESTERN	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Los Angeles	2	0	1.000	—
Las Vegas	2	1	.667	½
Seattle	1	1	.500	1
Phoenix	0	1	.000	1 ½
Dallas	0	1	.000	1 ½
Minnesota	0	3	.000	2 ½

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Los Angeles at Atlanta, late
New York at Chicago, late
Seattle at Phoenix, late

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Dallas at Washington, 7p.m.
Las Vegas at Atlanta, 7:30p.m.
Indiana at New York, 8p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Phoenix at Seattle, 3p.m.
Los Angeles at Connecticut, 7p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 8p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Dallas at New York, 2p.m.
Atlanta at Indiana, 3p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 89, Las Vegas 76
Indiana 82, Minnesota 76

SOCCER

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER

EASTERN	W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
Philadelphia	5	1	4	19	15	8
N.Y. Red Bulls	5	2	3	18	16	8
CF Montréal	5	3	2	17	20	19
Orlando City	5	4	2	17	13	15
Cincinnati	5	5	1	16	14	17
New York City FC	4	3	2	14	19	10
Atlanta	4	4	2	14	15	14
Charlotte FC	4	6	1	13	10	13
Columbus	3	3	4	13	15	11
D.C. United	4	5	0	12	12	13
New England	3	5	2	11	16	18
Toronto FC	3	6	2	11	16	22
Inter Miami CF	3	6	1	10	9	19
Chicago	2	4	4	10	7	11
WESTERN	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PT**	**GF**	**GA**
Los Angeles FC	7	1	2	23	23	10
Austin FC	6	2	2	20	22	9
LA Galaxy	6	3	1	19	11	7
FC Dallas	5	1	4	19	16	7
Real Salt Lake	4	3	4	16	10	15
Nashville	4	3	3	15	11	10
Minnesota United	4	4	2	14	11	9
Houston	3	4	3	12	12	13
Colorado	3	4	3	12	11	12
Portland	2	3	6	12	11	16
San Jose	2	5	3	9	16	23
Sporting KC	2	6	3	9	8	16
Seattle	2	5	1	7	9	13
Vancouver	2	6	1	7	7	17

Three points for win, one point for tie.

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Orlando City at Toronto FC, 3p.m.
Los Angeles FC at Colorado, 3:30p.m.
CF Montréal at Charlotte FC, 7p.m.
Columbus at New York City FC, 7p.m.
San Jose at Vancouver, 7p.m.
N.Y. Red Bulls at Philadelphia, 7:30p.m.
Cincinnati at Chicago, 8p.m.
D.C. United at Miami, 8p.m.
Nashville at Houston, 8:30p.m.
Austin FC at Real Salt Lake, 9:30p.m.
Sporting KC at Portland, 10p.m.
FC Dallas at LA Galaxy, 10:30p.m.

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
New England at Atlanta, 1:30p.m.
Minnesota at Seattle, 4p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18
New York City FC at D.C. United, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at N.Y. Red Bulls, 7:30p.m.
Miami at Philadelphia, 7:30p.m.
LA Galaxy at Minnesota, 8p.m.
Seattle at Houston, 8:30p.m.
Colorado at Sporting KC, 8:30p.m.
CF Montréal at Nashville, 8:30p.m.
FC Dallas at Vancouver, 10p.m.
Austin FC at Los Angeles FC, 10:30p.m.
Portland at San Jose, 10:30p.m.

NWSL

CLUB	W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
San Diego FC	2	0	0	6	5	0
Portland	1	0	0	3	3	0
Chicago	1	0	0	3	2	1
Houston	1	1	0	3	2	1
Washington	1	0	0	3	2	1
Angel City FC	1	1	0	3	2	2
Gotham FC	1	1	0	3	3	4
Orlando	1	1	0	3	1	3
OL Reign	0	1	1	1	3	4
Louisville	0	1	1	1	3	4
North Carolina	0	1	0	0	1	2
Kansas City	0	2	0	0	0	5

Three points for win, one point for tie.

FRIDAY'S MATCH
OL Reign at Portland, 10:30p.m.

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Kansas City at Orlando, 6:30p.m.
North Carolina at Gotham FC, 7p.m.
Houston at Louisville, 8p.m.

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
Chicago at San Diego Wave FC, 5p.m.
Angel City FC at Washington, 5p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18
Orlando at North Carolina, 7p.m.
San Diego FC at Louisville, 7:30p.m.
Washington at Portland, 10p.m.

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

CLUB	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT
Man City	36	28	5	3	94	22	89
Liverpool	36	26	8	2	89	24	86
Chelsea	36	20	10	6	73	31	70
Arsenal	35	21	3	11	56	42	66
Tottenham	35	19	5	11	60	40	62
Man United	37	16	10	11	57	56	58
West Ham	36	16	7	13	57	46	55
Wolverhampton	36	15	5	16	36	39	50
Brighton	36	11	14	11	38	42	47
Leicester	35	12	9	14	52	56	45
Crystal Palace	35	10	14	11	46	42	44
Aston Villa	35	13	4	18	48	49	43
Brentford	36	12	7	17	44	52	43
Newcastle	36	11	10	15	40	61	43
Southampton	36	9	13	14	41	61	40
Everton	35	10	6	19	37	56	36
Burnley	35	7	13	15	32	49	34
Leeds	36	8	10	18	39	77	34
Watford	36	6	5	25	32	70	23
Norwich	36	5	6	25	22	78	21

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Chelsea 3, Leeds 0
Watford 0, Everton 0
Leicester 3, Norwich 0
Manchester City 5, Wolverhampton 1

THURSDAY'S MATCH
Tottenham vs. Arsenal, 2:45p.m.

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
Tottenham vs. Burnley, 7a.m.
Aston Villa vs. Crystal Palace, 9a.m.
Leeds vs. Brighton, 9a.m.
Watford vs. Leicester, 9a.m.
West Ham vs. Man City, 9a.m.
Wolverhampton vs. Norwich, 9a.m.
Everton vs. Brentford, 11:30a.m.

USFL

All games in Birmingham, Ala.

NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
New Jersey	3	1	0	.750	79	63
Philadelphia	2	2	0	.500	89	95
Michigan	1	3	0	.250	67	53
Pittsburgh	0	4	0	.000	39	92
SOUTH	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
Birmingham	4	0	0	1.000	99	75
New Orleans	3	1	0	.750	93	58
Tampa Bay	2	2	0	.500	57	79
Houston	1	3	0	.250	87	95

WEEK 5
FRIDAY'S GAME
Michigan at Tampa Bay, 8p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAME
New Orleans at New Jersey, 3p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Birmingham at Phildelphia, Noon
Pittsburgh at Houston, 4p.m.

ODDS

MLB — **THURSDAY**

NATIONAL LEAGUE

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
NY Mets	-168	at Washington	+142
at Pittsburgh	-142	Cincinnati	+120
at LA Dodgers	-140	Philadelphia	+120

AMERICAN LEAGUE

at Detroit	-126	Oakland	+108
Houston	-128	at Minnesota	+108
at Texas	off	Kansas City	off
at Chi Wh. Sox	-148	NY Yankees	+126

INTERLEAGUE

at St. Louis	off	Baltimore	off

NBA PLAYOFFS — **THURSDAY**

FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Philadelphia	2½	(207)	Miami
Phoenix	2	(211)	at Dallas

ODDS TO WIN SERIES

Phoenix	-750	Dallas	+500
Miami	-500	Philadelphia	+350

NHL CUP PLAYOFFS — **THURSDAY**

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at Boston	-130	Carolina	+108
at Tampa Bay	-134	Toronto	+112
at St. Louis	-115	Minnesota	-105
Edmonton	-142	at Los Angeles	+118

ODDS TO WIN FIRST-ROUND SERIES

Carolina	-360	Boston	+280
St. Louis	-280	Minnesota	+230
Toronto	-360	Tampa Bay	+280
Los Angeles	-170	Edmonton	+145

For the latest odds, go to FanDuel Sportsbook, https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/



Justin Thomas on other players seeking releases from the PGA and European tours to play in a Saudi-funded event next month in England: "If you want to go, go." GREGORY SHAMUS/GETTY

GOLF

Saudi league event hot topic in Texas

At PGA Tour's Byron Nelson, some players talking, some not

By Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press

McKINNEY, Texas — Lee Westwood and Ian Poulter didn't want to talk about the PGA Tour's decision to deny releases to members who asked to play in the first of a series of Saudi-funded tournaments next month in England.

Tour loyalists were happy to weigh in at the Byron Nelson on Wednesday, the day before the Dallas-area event. Their theme: more power to anyone who wants to join Greg Norman's latest bid to create a lucrative rival league.

"Look, if you want to go, go," said Justin Thomas, the eighth-ranked player in the world. "There's been plenty of guys that have been advocates of it and have just talked it up all the time and they have been guys behind the scenes that are saying, 'I'm going, I'm doing this.'

"And, like, my whole thing is, like, just go then. Stop going back and forth. Everybody's entitled to do what they want."

Westwood, who has confirmed seeking releases from the PGA and European tours, responded to a reporter by saying he knew what would be asked and didn't want to answer questions on the topic.

Poulter is among those identified by The Daily Telegraph as seeking releases. He hopped in a golf cart after his Nelson pro-am round and said he had to be somewhere.

The first LIV Golf Invitational is scheduled for June 9-11 at Centurion Golf Club outside of London, with a 48-man field competing for a $20 million purse over 54 holes. The winner gets $4 million — to date the richest prize in golf — and last place gets $120,000.

While PGA Tour guidelines allow three conflicting event releases a year for overseas tournaments, it looked at the LIV debut differently as the the first of eight such $20 million events (five of them scheduled for the U.S.) with a clear indication it is the start of a new league.

Westwood isn't the only European tour player seeking a release. The European tour said in a statement it is "evaluating each request on a case-by-case basis and will correspond our decision with each individual member in due course."

Norman, meanwhile, held a media day at Centurion and said he was prepared to support players if they need help.

"We are going to back our players, we are going to be there for them, for whatever it is," Norman said, according to The Daily Telegraph. "I've told the players, 'It's your choice. If you want to stay exclusively with the PGA Tour, happy days, go for it.'

"But I've also told the players, 'We've got your back.' Simple. We will defend them, we will reimburse them and we will represent them."

The PGA Tour informed players seeking releases of Commissioner Jay Monahan's decision Tuesday, then notified all players of the decision in a short memo, which was obtained by The AP.

"I think Jay's made it very clear from the start of what would happen," Thomas said. "I think a lot of people are probably like, 'I can't believe you did this,' or, 'Wow, you went through with it.'

"But this is what he said was going to happen all along."

Will Zalatoris said he's a member of the player advisory council, and said the group has had "a lot of talks" about the Saudi-backed league. He said the decision was the "perfect response."

"If you want to do it, no one's stopping you," the 25-year-old Zalatoris said. "But what we have here is pretty good too, considering every week we're playing for a pretty great purse on pretty great golf courses and considering the benefits that we have off the golf course on top of that. It's pretty tough to beat."

While the names of players who have signed up hasn't officially been released, Phil Mickelson said through his agent he has asked for a conflicting event release to the London event. The Daily Telegraph reported that Sergio Garcia and Martin Kaymer also are among those seeking releases.

AP writer Doug Ferguson contributed to this report.

IN BRIEF

Saban: Didn't tamper with transfer

News services

Alabama coach Nick Saban denies that anybody from his program had contact with Tyler Harrell before the former Louisville receiver entered the transfer portal, which would have violated NCAA rules.

Saban responded to a suggestion from Louisville coach Scott Satterfield that Alabama had tampered with Harrell, who has since transferred to the Crimson Tide.

"We don't tamper with anybody, so I don't know about anything or anybody that tampered with him," Saban told reporters Wednesday before playing in the Tradition Pro-Am.

Satterfield made the accusation last week in an interview with 247Sports.

"I think it's not only him, it's happened before here," Satterfield said in the interview. "Last year we had a few guys that jumped into the portal and the next day they announce where they're going. You can look at that and know that something went on before they were in the portal."

Harrell entered the transfer portal April 12 and committed to Alabama 10 days later.

Alabama has had 18 scholarship players enter the transfer portal this offseason. Saban said he doesn't have any knowledge of other schools tampering with any of his players but "I just think sometimes when things happen it makes you wonder."

"I think it's really hard to control third parties, whether it's direct or indirect," Saban said. "When you have a guy leave your program to go someplace else the day after a game, I don't have any evidence that anything happened — I'm not making any accusations — but it makes you wonder.

"But hopefully we have enough honesty and integrity out there amongst us professionally in our sport that people are going to abide by the rules."

Alabama is trying to replace its three top receivers, including All-American Jameson Williams, who was selected 12th overall by the Lions. Harrell caught 18 passes for 523 yards and six touchdowns last season.

Alabama has also added several other high-profile transfers, including Georgia receiver Jermaine Burton.

NBA: Nets GM Sean Marks made clear Wednesday that PG Kyrie Irving will have to prove a commitment to being available to his team that wasn't there this season. After Irving missed almost all the Nets' home games because he refused to be vaccinated against the coronavirus, Marks said talks about a potential contract extension this summer will need to include an evaluation of his dedication to play unless he's injured. Marks says: "It's a team sport and you need everybody out there on the court."

NHL: Adrian Kempe scored 1:12 into OT to give the Kings a 5-4 victory over the host Oilers on Tuesday and a 3-2 lead in the first-round playoff series. Kempe also scored and had an assist for the Kings in regulation. Oilers top defenseman Darnell Nurse will miss Game 6 after the league suspended him one game for head-butting Kings forward Phillip Danault.

Soccer: Kevin De Bruyne scored four times to lead Manchester City to a 5-1 victory over host Wolverhampton on Wednesday. With the victory, the defending Premier League champs restored their three-point lead over second-place Liverpool. City needs four points from its final two matches to guarantee the repeat title.

SPORTS

LOCAL SCOREBOARD

TUESDAY'S LATE HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

SOFTBALL

NCCC
ROCKVILLE 7, STAFFORD 1
S 001-000-**0**—1-3-0
R 120-103-**x**—7-9-1
WP: Alexis Real. **LP:** Sofia Frassinelli. Rec.: **R**—10-4; **S**—8-5. **Note:** Real had 19 strikeouts. Hannah Burg was 2-for-3 with 2RBI and Mikayla Leskey was 2-for-3with an RBI for Rockville.
ECC
STONINGTON 15, WINDHAM 4
S 004-136-**1**—15-10-3
W 200-020-**0**—4-8-5
WP: Cayla Beverly. **LP:** Analise Escarraman. **HR: S**—Maddy Stepski (2). Rec.: **S**—9-3; **S**—8-5. **Note:** Escarraman had 11strikeouts.

GIRLS LACROSSE

CCC-North
SIMSBURY 9, HALL 3
Goals: S—Elena Bontatibus (3), Reece Willison (2), McKena Pennington (2), Mackenzie Chapman, Liv Francis; **H**—Emma Keller (2), Grace Rocheleau. **Saves: S**—Kaitlyn O'Brien, 8; **H**—Talia Leshem, 5. Rec.: **S**—8-4; **H**—4-7.
NCCC
GRANBY 12, ROCKVILLE 1
Goals: G—Alyssa Mackowski (3), Maddie Ellrod (3), Jayne Hiatt (2), Makenna Cassin, Charlotte Kampfmann, Mia Boffi, Ally McDonald, Sandee Matthews; **R**—Lexi Diaz. **Saves: G**—Alexis DeMeo, 2; **R**—Mandi Rivard, 12. Rec.: **G**—10-3; **R**—2-12.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Others
GLASTONBURY 3, ROCKVILLE 0 (25-14, 25-10, 25-11)
G: Ryan Barcikowski, 4assists, 3kills, 2 aces, Ryan Hoffman, 6kills, 4blocks; **R:** Abdul Chaudhry, 5kills. Rec.: **G**—14-0; **R**—7-10.

BOYS GOLF

CCC-East
E.O. SMITH 181, ENFIELD 183
Medalist: Damien Till, E.O. Smith, 41at Grassmere CC, Enfield.

GIRLS GOLF

Others
HALL 188, CHESHIRE 209
Medalist: Annie DeSanto, Hall, 38at Rockledge GC, West Hartford.

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

NCCC
COVENTRY 82, EAST GRANBY 43
Others
TOLLAND 101, ENFIELD 40
TOLLAND 81, EAST LYME 68
EAST LYME 114, ENFIELD 31

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

NCCC
COVENTRY 87, EAST GRANBY 31
SCC
CHESHIRE 110, WEST HAVEN 46
SHELTON 95, CHESHIRE 55
Others
EAST LYME 137, ENFIELD 13
EAST LYME 89, TOLLAND 60
TOLLAND 95, ENFIELD 50

BOYS TENNIS

Others
ELLINGTON 5, TOLLAND 2

WEDNESDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

BASEBALL

CCC-North
NEWINGTON 8, ROCKY HILL 2
RH 000-101-**0**—2-7-1
N 100-052-**x**—8-8-1
WP: Austyn Howe. **LP:** Zach Myers. **HR: N**—Shaun Callahan. Rec.: **N**—12-2; **RH**—10-5. **Note:** Callahan was 2-for-4 with a 2-run homer, 4RBI.
CCC-South
BRISTOL EASTERN 7, MIDDLETOWN 4
BE 022-201-**0**—7-8-3
M 101-100-**1**—4-8-5
WP: Mike Roalf. **LP:** Justin Almeida. Rec.: **BE**—5-8; **M**—9-5.
LEWIS MILLS 13, BRISTOL CENTRAL 1
CCC-East
E.O. SMITH 10, ENFIELD 5
EOS 300-050-**2**—10-7-3
E 120-101-**0**—5-9-1
WP: Aidan Gilbert. **LP:** Braiden Alaimo. **HR: EOS**—Diego Mercado. Rec.: **EOS**—7-8; **E**—6-7. Mercado and Braeden Giller both had 2hits, 4RBI for E.O. Smith. Alaimo was 3-for-4at the plate.
SOUTH WINDSOR 6, EAST HARTFORD 5
CCC-West
HALL 16, NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 5
NCCC
COVENTRY 4, SMSA 0
C 000-013-**0**—4-5-0
S 000-000-**0**—0-1-0
WP: AJ Rooks. **LP:** Dylan Kolakowski. Rec.: **C**—11-5; **S**—7-9. **Note:** Rooks tossed a 1-hit shutout with 9strikeouts. Austin Jonas was 2-for-3with an RBI. Aiden McCarthy had the hit for SMSA.
CANTON 7, STAFFORD 0
C 102-031-**0**—7-6-0
S 000-000-**0**—0-5-2
WP: Robert Dlubac. **LP:** Sam Formus. Rec.: **C**—9-5; **S**—11-6. **Note:** Sam Lincoln was 3-for-3with 4RBI and Andrew Cappabianca was 2-for-3. Jaden Reynolds was 2-for-3for Stafford.
EAST GRANBY 8, ROCKVILLE 3
R 000-200-**1**—3-8-2
EG 000-107-**x**—8-11-1
WP: Aiden Cosgrove. **LP:** Jacob Niemczyk. **HR: EG**—Ben Lakomy. Rec.: **EG**—10-5; **R**—8-8.
SUFFIELD 13, BOLTON 8
WP: Chase Tyburski. **LP:** Andrew Goodness. **HR: S**—Nick Gomes. Rec.: **S**—7-7; **B**—0-15. **Note:** Gomes had 3RBI and Jack Jamrog was 2-for-4with a double, RBI. Justin Decker was 3-for-5with 3RBI for Bolton.
Shoreline
VALLEY REGIONAL 4, EAST HAMPTON 0
CROMWELL 7, HALE-RAY 6
CTC
NORWICH TECH 14, WINDHAM TECH 8
WT 000-320-**3**—8-10-9
NT 046-103-**x**—14-10-2
WP: Collin Schaller. **LP:** Brody Belanger. Rec.: **NT**—11-5; **WT**—8-8. **Note:** Trey Lindsey was 3-for-4with 2 doubles for Windham Tech.
GOODWIN TECH 6, PLATT TECH 4
CRAL
UNIVERSITY/CLASSICAL 13, WEAVER 3 (6)
SCC
FAIRFIELD PREP 6, HAND 3

SOFTBALL

CCC-North
HARTFORD PUBLIC 22, BLOOMFIELD 10 (6)
WETHERSFIELD 18, NEW BRITAIN 2
CCC-South
BRISTOL CENTRAL 17, LEWIS MILLS 0
CCC-East
RHAM 3, TOLLAND 2
R 100-002-**0**—3-5-0
T 000-001-**1**—2-2-3
WP: Hadley Marchand. **LP:** Elsie McCaffrey. Rec.: **R**—12-2; **T**—9-6. **Note:** Marchand had 12strikeouts and was 2-for-3at the plate. McCaffrey had 10strikeouts.
ENFIELD 9, E.O. SMITH 6
CCC-West
SOUTHINGTON 15, CONARD 0
S 012-026-**4**—15
C 000-000-**0**—0
WP: Madison Furniss. **LP:** Tatyanah Datil. Rec.: **S**—14-1; **C**—7-9.
HALL 13, NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 6
NCCC
CANTON 2, STAFFORD 1 (10)
S 000-010-000-**0**—1-7-1
C 100-000-000-**1**—2-3-1
WP: Alice Butterfield. **LP:** Sofia Frassinelli. Rec.: **C**—10-5; **S**—8-6. **Note:** Butterfield had 11strikeouts and Joy Shand was 2-for-4. Toney had 15 strikeouts.
SOMERS 18, HMTCA 4 (5)
S 714-**24**—18
H 101-**02**—4
WP: Kiana Kalman. **LP:** Isabella Torres. Rec.: **S**—13-4; **H**—1-15.
ELLINGTON 8, EAST WINDSOR/SMSA 1
ROCKVILLE 5, EAST GRANBY 4
BOLTON 6, SUFFIELD 5 (10)
Shoreline
HALE-RAY 22, WESTBROOK/PORTLAND 1
CTC
WINDHAM TECH 27, GRASSO TECH 15 (5)
CRAL
MLC 23, CAPITAL PREP 6
NVL
ST. PAUL 15, CROSBY 0

BOYS LACROSSE

CCC-Inter
NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 17, LEWIS MILLS 5

GIRLS LACROSSE

CCC-South
BRISTOL CENTRAL 11, LEWIS MILLS 3
SCC
MERCY 15, NORTH HAVEN 10
Goals: M—Lily Schoonmaker (8), Mackenzie Kelley (6), Maddy Carbone; **NH**—Shea Saracino (5), Liz Hansen (2), Riley Minns (2), Eliza O'Connor. **Saves: M**—Callia Borkowski, 7; **NH**—Gabby Barry, 13. Rec.: **M**—4-9; **NH**—4-10.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

CCC-West
FARMINGTON 3, MALONEY 0 (25-13, 25-20, 25-14)
F: Mark Chermyak, 7kills, 3blocks, 1 ace, Austin Anthony, 6aces, 4kills; **M:** Dev Patel, 8kills, Xavian Brown, 6kills. Rec.: **F**—10-5; **M**—6-8.
SOUTHINGTON 3, HALL 0 (25-17, 25-14, 25-18)
S: Ben Roper, 21assists, 3digs, Matthew Morgan, 9kills, 3digs; **H:** Liam Horsey, 7 kills, 3digs. Rec.: **S**—12-3; **H**—7-7.
CCC-Inter
NEWINGTON 3, NEW BRITAIN 1
Others
SOUTH WINDSOR 3, NORWICH TECH 0

BOYS GOLF

NCCC
GRANBY 190, BOLTON (NO TEAM SCORE)
Medalist: Andrew Cefole, Granby, 43at Copper Hill CC, East Granby.
ELLINGTON 185, SOMERS 190
Medalist: Ryan Willey, East Windsor, 35 at Ellington Ridge CC.
CANTON 175, EAST GRANBY 217
Medalist: Matt Schuman, Canton, 41at Blue Fox Run, Avon.
Shoreline
NORTH BRANFORD 171, OLD LYME 187
Medalist: Dakota Cooper, North Branford, 37at Black Hall Club, Old Lyme.
HALE-RAY 186, VALLEY REGIONAL 209
Medalist: Luke Karpiej, Hale-Ray, 36at Black Hall Club, Old Lyme.
HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH 180, EAST HAMPTON 280
SCC
XAVIER 171, GUILFORD 172
Medalist: Andrew Beauton, Guilford, 37 at Madison CC.
Others
BRISTOL CENTRAL 177, ST. PAUL 177
Medalist: Brandon Frye, St. Paul, 37at Pequabuck GC, Bristol.
HAND 159, MORGAN 168
Medalist: Reece Scott, Hand, 36at Clinton CC.

GIRLS GOLF

CCC-South
BERLIN 164, NEW BRITAIN 307
Medalist: Kenna Roman, Berlin, 37at Timberlin GC, Berlin.
CCC-East
WETHERSFIELD 199, SOUTH WINDSOR 222
CCC-West
HALL 183, AVON 210
Medalist: Annie DeSanto, Hall, 35at Rockledge GC, West Hartford.
NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 205, FARMINGTON 248
CCC-Inter
NEWINGTON 204, LEWIS MILLS 214
Medalist: Glorianne Pinote, Newington, 42at Indian Hill CC, Newington.
Others
CHESHIRE 189, ST. PAUL 190
Medalist: Sydney Hidalgo, Cheshire, 41 at Southington CC.

BOYS TENNIS

CCC-South
LEWIS MILLS 7, PLAINVILLE 0
CCC-East
E.O. SMITH 7, MANCHESTER 0
CCC-West
AVON 7, NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 0
GLASTONBURY 6, CONARD 1
FARMINGTON 6, SOUTHINGTON 1
CCC-Inter
WETHERSFIELD 6, BERLIN 1
NCCC
ROCKVILLE 4, CANTON/EAST GRANBY 3
GRANBY 7, WINDSOR LOCKS 0
Shoreline
OLD LYME 7, CROMWELL 0
MORGAN 7, OLD SAYBROOK 0
VALLEY REGIONAL 7, EAST HAMPTON 0
SCC
BRANFORD 7, LYMAN HALL 0

GIRLS TENNIS

CCC-North
ROCKY HILL 7, BLOOMFIELD 0
NEWINGTON 7, WINDSOR 0
CCC-South
PLAINVILLE 5, LEWIS MILLS 2
CCC-East
MANCHESTER 4, E.O. SMITH 3
EAST CATHOLIC 7, ENFIELD 0
CCC-West
FARMINGTON 7, SOUTHINGTON 0
GLASTONBURY 5, CONARD 2
AVON 7, NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 0
CTC
WILCOX TECH 5, ABBOTT TECH 2
SCC
SHELTON 5, LYMAN HALL 2
ECC
MONTVILLE 5, WINDHAM/WINDHAM TECH 2

THURSDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

ALL GAMES AT 3:45 P.M. UNLESS NOTED

BASEBALL

CCC-**North:** Windsor at Newington, 4:30p.m.
CCC-**South:** Lewis Mills at Platt
CCC-**East:** South Windsor at E.O. Smith, 5p.m.
CCC-**West:** Northwest Catholic at Glastonbury, 5p.m.
NCCC: Granby at Suffield, 4p.m.
Shoreline: Morgan at North Branford, 4p.m.
CTC: Grasso Tech at Wilcox Tech; Bullard-Havens at Prince Tech; Windham Tech at Goodwin Tech
CRAL: University/Classical at MLC, 3:30p.m.
SCC: Shelton at Cheshire, 4p.m.
ECC: Windham at Griswold; New London at Bacon Academy, 4p.m.
Others: Old Saybrook at St. Bernard (2), 2p.m.; East Windsor at Civic Leadership, 3:30p.m.; Middletown at Coginchaug; Bolton at Cheney Tech; Haddam-Killingworth at East Granby, 4p.m.; Stonington at Old Lyme, 4p.m.; Ellis Tech at Rocky Hill, 4:15p.m.; Somers at Hale-Ray, 4:15p.m.; Canton at Valley Regional, 5p.m.

SOFTBALL

CCC-**North:** Newington at Windsor, 4:15p.m.
CCC-**South:** Platt at Lewis Mills
CCC-**East:** E.O. Smith at South Windsor
CCC-**West:** Glastonbury at Northwest Catholic; Conard at Avon
CCC-**Inter:** Wethersfield at East Hartford, 6:30p.m.
NCCC: Granby at Windsor Locks; Stafford at Bolton, 4p.m.
Shoreline: Old Saybrook at North Branford, 4p.m.
CTC: Prince Tech at Vinal Tech; Abbott Tech at Goodwin Tech
CRAL: University/Classical at MLC, 3:30p.m.
SCC: Branford at Sheehan; Lyman Hall at Cheshire, 4:15p.m.
ECC: Lyman Memorial at Windham, 4 p.m.; Bacon Academy at Griswold, 4 p.m.
Others: Wolcott at Bristol Central, 3:15 p.m.; Weaver at Bulkeley; Morgan at Middletown; Norwich Tech at Old Lyme, 4p.m.; Wilcox Tech at East Hampton, 4 p.m.; Westbrook/Portland at Bassick, 4:15p.m.; Northwestern at Somers, 4:15 p.m.; Pomperaug at Bristol Eastern, 5 p.m.; Coginchaug at Berlin, 7p.m.

BOYS LACROSSE

CCC-**North:** Rocky Hill at Newington; RHAM at Farmington, 4p.m.; South Windsor at Northwest Catholic, 4p.m.
CCC-**Central:** Hall at Simsbury, 5p.m.; Southington at Glastonbury, 5p.m.; East Catholic at Conard, 6:15p.m.
CCC-**South:** Maloney/Platt at Enfield; Tolland at Wethersfield; E.O. Smith at Lewis Mills, 4p.m.; Bristol co-op at Middletown, 5p.m.
NCCC: Ellington at Somers, 4:45p.m.
Shoreline: Old Lyme at Old Saybrook; Cromwell at Haddam-Killingworth, 4 p.m.; Morgan at North Branford, 6p.m.
SCC: Foran at Xavier, 6p.m.; Lyman Hall at Cheshire, 6p.m.; Sheehan at Hand, 6p.m.
ECC: Bacon Academy at Montville, 4 p.m.
NVL: Wolcott at St. Paul, 6p.m.
Others: Woodstock Academy at Norwich Tech/Windham Tech, 4p.m.; Avon at Granby, 5p.m.; Suffield/Windsor Locks at Berlin, 6p.m.

GIRLS LACROSSE

CCC-**South:** E.O. Smith at Lewis Mills, 4p.m.
CCC-**Inter:** Tolland at Conard, 4p.m.; East Catholic at Glastonbury, 4p.m.
Shoreline: Haddam-Killingworth at Cromwell, 4p.m.
SCC: Lauralton Hall at Mercy; Foran at Lyman Hall
ECC: Waterford at Bacon Academy, 4:30p.m.
Others: Granby at Avon, 4p.m.; Somers at RHAM, 5:45p.m.; New London at Valley Regional, 6p.m.; St. Joseph at Canton, 6:30p.m.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

CCC-**West:** Farmington at Newington, 5 p.m.; Conard at Maloney, 6p.m.; Simsbury at Hall, 6p.m.
CCC-**Inter:** Wethersfield at Lewis Mills, 5:45p.m.
Others: Bulkeley/SMSA at Rockville, 5 p.m.; HMTCA at Putnam, 5p.m.

BOYS GOLF

CCC-**South:** Middletown at Maloney, 3p.m.
CCC-**East:** South Windsor at East Catholic, 2:30p.m.; Enfield at RHAM, 3p.m.; Manchester at E.O. Smith, 3p.m.
CCC-**Inter:** Windsor at Platt, 3p.m.
NCCC: Suffield at Coventry, 2:45p.m.; SMSA/HMTCA at Windsor Locks, 3p.m.; Bolton at Ellington, 3p.m.
Shoreline: Portland at Hale-Ray, 3p.m.; Cromwell at Haddam-Killingworth, 3 p.m.
CTC: Wolcott Tech at Wilcox Tech, 1:40 p.m.; Goodwin Tech at Kaynor Tech, 2 p.m.; Vinal Tech at O'Brien Tech, 2p.m.; Norwich Tech at Prince Tech, 2p.m.
SCC: Hamden at Cheshire, 2:15p.m.; Notre Dame-West Haven at Hand, 2:30 p.m.
ECC: Windham/Parish Hill at Griswold, 2:30p.m.
Others: East Hampton, Lyman Hall at Coginchaug, 3p.m.; Valley Regional, Plainfield at Montville, 3p.m.; University at Plainville, 3p.m.

GIRLS GOLF

CCC-**West:** Hall at Northwest Catholic, 3p.m.
CCC-**Inter:** Newington at Wethersfield, 3p.m.; Lewis Mills at Conard, 3p.m.
SCC: Mercy at Lauralton Hall, 2:30p.m.
ECC: NFA at Bacon Academy, 3p.m.
Others: Suffield at Woodstock Academy, 3p.m.; Berlin at Cheshire, 3p.m.; St. Paul at Amity, 3:30p.m.
TRACK & FIELD
CCC-**East:** Enfield at South Windsor

BOYS TENNIS

CCC-**North:** Bulkeley/HMTCA at New Britain
CCC-**South:** Berlin at Lewis Mills
CCC-**East:** South Windsor at RHAM
CCC-**West:** Simsbury at Conard
CCC-**Inter:** East Catholic at Rocky Hill
Shoreline: Valley Regional at Morgan; Portland at Old Lyme, 4p.m.
SCC: Hand at Branford; Law at Xavier
Others: Ellington at Avon; Windsor Locks at Northwest Catholic; East Hampton at Wilcox Tech, 4p.m.; Southington at Wolcott, 5p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS

CCC-**South:** Lewis Mills at Berlin
CCC-**West:** Northwest Catholic at Farmington
CCC-**Inter:** Rocky Hill at Platt; Plainville at Manchester; New Britain at Bristol Central
NCCC: Suffield at Windsor Locks; Bolton at Canton, 4p.m.
Shoreline: Portland at Old Lyme, 3p.m.; Morgan at Valley Regional
CTC: Prince Tech at Norwich Tech
SCC: Mercy at West Haven
Others: Granby at Bulkeley/HMTCA; Avon at Ellington, 4p.m.; Wilcox Tech at East Hampton, 4p.m.

TUESDAY'S LATE COLLEGE RESULT

BASEBALL

NORTHEASTERN 9, UCONN 4

WEDNESDAY'S COLLEGE RESULTS

BASEBALL

Little East **Tourney**—Double Elimination
EASTERN 6, PLYMOUTH STATE 0

SOFTBALL

America East **Tourney**—Double Elimination
BINGHAMTON 5, HARTFORD 3
HARTFORD 5, MAINE 4

THURSDAY'S COLLEGE SCHEDULE

BASEBALL

Fairfield at Quinnipiac, 3p.m.
Little East **Tourney**—Double Elimination
Southern Maine/UMass-Boston at Eastern, 3:30p.m.

SOFTBALL

Big East **Tourney**—Double Elimination
UConn vs. DePaul, noon
MAAC **Tourney**—Double Elimination
Fairfield vs. Iona, 11a.m.



Hartford Courant
FLAVOR
LIVING

RESTAURANT REVIEW

A taste of *Jamaica*

The Russell in West Hartford offers a vibrant upscaling of the island's cuisine

By Rand Richards Cooper
Special To The Courant



Thick chunks of pork butt, grilled and piled together with large timbales of rice and gungo peas, at The Russell.
KARRINGTON TRACE/THE RUSSELL PHOTOS



Cocktails at The Russell feature rum-based concoctions with passionfruit, pineapple and blue Curacao.



Carrot layer cake is on the dessert menu at The Russell.

In 2005, Hugh Russell, who moved to Connecticut from Jamaica in 1987 as a 20-year-old, opened the Hartford restaurant that bears his name. Two years ago, he relocated The Russell to the cavernous Allyn Street space that formerly housed Black Bear Saloon. And this past January he opened a satellite Jamaican eatery on South Main Street in West Hartford Center, part of his ongoing mission, he says, "to bring the island here."

The two venues (a third, on New Britain Avenue does takeout only) offer a distinct choice of vibe. In contrast to the vast downtown mothership, the West Hartford branch is cozy and convivial, a stylish room where a blackboard lists bar specials in multicolored chalk. One big mural depicts Bob Marley and others illustrate breadfruit, soursop, and other Jamaican foods. Cocktails feature rum-based concoctions with passionfruit, pineapple, blue Curacao. "Vibrant" is the apt word. The restaurant has live music most nights, while the downtown venue also offers karaoke and spoken-word poetry.

"Entertainment," Russell says, "is what Jamaica is all about."

Our server glowingly described the delights of her homeland: its forested hills and cool nights, the coffee farms of the Blue Mountains, and the rowdy scene at Boston Beach, epicenter for Jamaica's signature barbecue specialty, jerk. The mention of Boston Beach recalled a trip I made there years ago, visiting jerk pits where meats cooked on smoldering hardwood grills. One stop was the stand known as Sufferers Jerk Pork #1, whose name hints at jerk's explosive pepper power.

"We don't make it *that* hot here," our server at The Russell said with an apologetic grin. "Honestly, it should hurt a bit more." She furnished a bottle of Grace's scotch-bonnet sauce to bang the hurt up a notch.

Under the direction of head chef Rohan Smith, a veteran of Kingston's restaurant scene, the Russell is a jerk-centric dining experience. You can get it in snacky munches, like a grilled chicken panini or a gooey-cheesy flatbread pizza, both using roasted red bell peppers and caramelized onions to add sweetness to the chicken. Don't bother with the calamari appetizer — the jerk was undetectable in these overly battered morsels. I wouldn't opt for salmon either. The subtle flavor and the tenderness of seafood don't always make an optimal platform for jerk. You want something you can fight with.

Like pork. The Russell serves thick chunks of pork butt, grilled and piled together with large timbales of rice and gungo peas, which resemble small kidney beans and lend the rice a pinkish, dirty-rice tinge. But my favorite jerk option was chicken wings — charred, moist, and zingy, with a dipping sauce that cut the fire of scotch bonnet with a sweetish rum-and-mango chutney.

The kitchen turns out other Jamaican dishes that, like jerk, reflect the island's complex history. Ackee, a pink, lobe-like fruit with a mild and elusive flavor, came from Africa on slave ships. Boiled, sliced and fried, it looks like scrambled eggs, and combined with flaked salt cod — brought to Jamaica by sugar plantation owners — it forms the classic Jamaica breakfast food. The Russell's kitchen doles it out on plantain chips as a tasty appetizer. Or come for Sunday brunch and get it as a main course.

Chinese laborers brought stir-fry to the island, presented here in an excellent entrée of sliced steak with red and green bell peppers. Curry (and chutney) arrived with indentured workers from India. Jamaican curry uses allspice, and typically contains neither red chili powder nor curry leaves, resulting in a subtler flavor. Eating goat curry can mean doing battle with bone fragments, but The Russell's kitchen minimizes this problem via careful butchering; the meat fell away from the bone in big tender chunks and also possessed none of the slightly gamy taste goat meat can have.

The fish preparation known as escovitch came to the Caribbean from Moorish Spain; the word derives from the Arabic *al-sikbaj*, a stew cooked in a sweet-and-sour sauce. The supremely enjoyable version at The Russell is a large red snapper, fried (with the head on) to perfect crispness, then smothered in onions and carrots and given a highly vinegary dressing. A side of jerk-spiked honey BBQ sauce completes the pleasure. And on the subject of pleasure, I have to mention a fabulous (and enormous) starter of fish tacos, tender fried tilapia in a fruity salsa, drenched in a rich scotch-bonnet aioli.

Not everything was perfect — a penne entrée, for instance, leaned too heavily on cream — and some timing issues with the serving of courses need ironing out. But The Russell offers terrific value. Its deft upscaling of a street food — or beach food — reminds us how delicious it is to engage with history and culture through our taste buds, via a cuisine that maps the world on our plate.

THE BASICS

4 stars
The bill: Appetizers, salads, sandwiches, $8 to $14; entrees, $12 to $26; sides, $5 to $8; desserts, $8 to $12.
Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday to Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday, brunch noon to 4 p.m. and dinner 4 to 8 p.m. (bar closes one hour later.) Reservations not accepted.
Accessibility: Wheelchair access through front of restaurant. Free parking in front lot.
Location: 39 S. Main St., West Hartford. 860-519-0138 and therussellct.com

Rand Richards Cooper is a freelance food writer in Connecticut.

Black bean recipe will change your mind about veggie burgers

By Gretchen Mckay
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

If you're not a fan of veggie burgers, I can probably guess why. Too often these plant-based patties masquerading as the cookout standard are either mushy or completely crumble the second you take a bite. This recipe will change your mind.

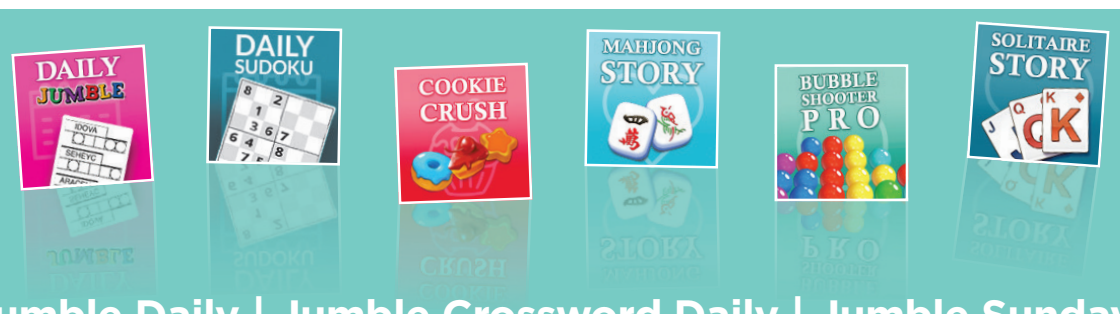
The secret is in the ingredients. J. Kenji Lopez-Alt solves the problem of mushy texture by partially dehydrating the burgers' protein source — canned black beans — in the oven. His recipe also adds chopped cashews for texture and panko breadcrumbs to help bind the patties, without making them too soft.

Sautéed onions, poblano peppers, garlic and a touch of smoky heat from chipotle chile add depth to the patties.

The final tip is to cook the patties gently over moderate heat in a skillet. You also can grill the burgers, but be sure to brush the patties with oil before placing them over the heat — it will help them to brown more evenly, while also preventing them from sticking to the grates.

Turn to Burger, *Page 2*

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Spring risotto in shades of pink and green

By Melissa Clark
The New York Times



A whole bunch of chard adds color and texture, while pancetta lends a porky, salty crunch to a pot of satiny risotto. **DANE TASHIMA/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS**

The day I found out that I didn't have to stand over the risotto pot, stirring constantly with one hand as I awkwardly ladled in simmering liquid with the other, was the day the rice dish went into my permanent dinner rotation.

Before that, risotto was for special occasions only, something I'd trot out when I was trying to impress.

With the rumpled pages of my copy of Marcella Hazan's "Essentials of Classic Italian Cooking" falling open to page 245 — Risotto With Parmesan Cheese — I gave the cooking technique my full attention, heeding the formidable author's precise instructions.

"You must never stop stirring," she wrote, explaining that it is through "the gradual administration of small quantities of liquid" and never-ending stirring that the soft starch of the short-grain rice is able to bind with the broth, creating a satiny sauce.

Rice that is not constantly stirred, she admonished, "may turn into a perfectly agreeable dish, but it is not risotto, and will not taste like risotto."

Dutifully, I stirred and stirred, losing hours of my life to those needy rice pots.

When I heard there was an entire contingent of risotto rebels who did not abide by constant stirring, I immediately joined their ranks.

An occasional vigorous stir, I learned, works perfectly well. So does cooking rice and broth together in a stovetop or electric pressure cooker. And so does baking it.

Whether you feel comfortable calling the dishes that result from these techniques risotto is up to you. But they are excellent methods and undeniably easier.

For this vegetable-rich rendition, I add an entire bunch of chard, both stems and leaves, to the risotto pan. The stems, sliced and sautéed with some shallots, turn sweet and succulent. The chopped leaves are mixed in later, wilting in the broth and speckling the rice with bits of green. If you can get Swiss chard that's red, it tints everything gorgeously pink, but Swiss or rainbow chard with stalks of any color will work equally well.

I also threw in pancetta for a salty, brawny crunch. But it's easy to leave out and, if you weren't expecting the pork, you'd never miss it. Or you can substitute shiitake or oyster mushrooms, sautéed until crisp.

The possibilities here really are endless. The ingredients in risotto, it turns out, are just as adaptable and forgiving as the cooking method.

RISOTTO WITH CHARD AND PANCETTA

Makes: 4 to 6 servings
Total time: 50 minutes
4 ounces pancetta or unsmoked bacon, diced
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
½ cup chopped shallots or red onion
1 (8-ounce) bunch Swiss chard, preferably red Swiss chard, stems thinly sliced and leaves coarsely chopped
3 garlic cloves, finely grated or minced
1 ½ cups Carnaroli, Vialone Nano or Arborio rice
1 teaspoon fine sea or table salt, plus more to taste
¾ cup dry white wine
1 quart chicken or vegetable broth, at room temperature (cold broth slows down the cooking)



Ingredients to make Swiss chard risotto.

1 teaspoon finely grated lemon zest (save lemon, cut into wedges, for serving)
¼ cup grated Parmesan, plus more for serving
1. Combine pancetta and oil in a large skillet and turn the heat to medium. Cook until fat has rendered and the pancetta is golden brown and crisp, stirring occasionally, 5 to 10 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to transfer pancetta to a paper towel-lined plate.
2. Add butter to the skillet and let melt over medium heat. Stir in shallot and cook until translucent, 3 to 5 minutes. Add chard stems and garlic, and cook until fragrant and golden, 2 minutes.
3. Stir in rice and 1 teaspoon salt, and cook until rice is opaque and smells slightly toasted, 3 to 5 minutes.
4. Stir in wine and cook until it's absorbed, about 3 minutes. Add stock, about ½ cup at a time, stirring occasionally, until rice is cooked through but still has a slight bite, 20 to 27 minutes.
5. Add lemon zest and stir until well distributed. Stir in chard leaves and cook until softened, stirring occasionally, 5 minutes longer. If the risotto is too thick, stir in a little water or some more broth (do this until the level of creaminess pleases you; perfect risotto texture is subjective). Stir in Parmesan, then taste and add more salt, if needed.
6. Spoon immediately into individual bowls. Sprinkle pancetta on top and finish with more Parmesan and black pepper, if desired. Serve with lemon wedges on the side for squeezing.



Roasted black beans and toasted cashews team up with chipotle chile pepper to create this tasty veggie burger. **GRETCHEN MCKAY/PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE**

Burger

from Page 1

REALLY AWESOME BLACK BEAN BURGERS

Makes: 6 to 8 burgers
2 (15-ounce) cans black beans, rinsed and drained
4 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
1 medium onion, finely chopped (about 1 cup)
1 large poblano pepper, finely chopped (about 1 cup)
3 medium cloves garlic, minced
1 chipotle chile in adobo sauce, finely chopped, plus 1 teaspoon sauce
¾ cup roasted cashews
½ cup finely crumbled feta or cotija cheese
¾ cup panko breadcrumbs
1 large egg
2 tablespoons mayonnaise
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
Cheese for topping (optional)
6 to 8 hearty hamburger buns, toasted
Condiments as desired
Toppings as desired
1. Adjust oven rack to center position and preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spread black beans in a single layer on a foil-lined rimmed baking sheet. Roast until beans are mostly split open and outer skins are beginning to get crunchy, about 20 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to cool slightly.
2. While beans roast, heat 2 tablespoons oil in a medium skillet over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add onion and poblano and cook, stirring frequently, until softened, about 5 minutes. Add garlic and cook, stirring constantly, until fragrant, about 2 minutes. Add chipotle chile and sauce and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Transfer mixture to a large bowl.
3. Place cashews in the bowl of a food processor and pulse until chopped into pieces no larger than ⅓ inch, about 12 short pulses. Add to bowl with onions and peppers.
4. When beans are slightly cooled, transfer to food processor. Add cheese. Pulse until beans are roughly chopped. Transfer to bowl with onion/pepper mixture. Add breadcrumbs, egg and mayonnaise, and season with salt and pepper. Fold together gently but thoroughly with hands. (Patty mixture can be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to three days at this stage.)
5. Form bean mixture into 6 to 8 patties as wide as your burger buns. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a large nonstick or cast-iron skillet over medium heat until shimmering. Add 4 patties and cook, swirling pan occasionally, until well browned and crisp on first side, about 5 minutes. Carefully flip and cook until second side is browned, about 5 minutes longer, adding cheese if desired.
6. Place patties on buns, add condiments and toppings, and serve immediately.
— Recipe from SeriousEats.com



Placing a bet on Italian grapes in California

By Eric Asimov
The New York Times


From left, Kevin Harvey, the proprietor of Aeris, Javier Tapia, the vineyard manager, and Jeff Brinkman, the winemaker, at Rhys Vineyards's Centennial Mountain vineyard in Santa Clara County, California. **FRANCESCA TAMSE/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

CENTENNIAL MOUNTAIN, Calif. — The 10 acres of nebbiolo growing on this remote ridge about 10 miles from the Pacific in northern Sonoma County make the vineyard unusual enough in California. The other grapes make it positively singular.

No other vineyard in the country but this one, as far as I can tell, has blocks of carricante and nerello mascalese, the two most significant white and red grapes grown on Mount Etna in Sicily.

One grower, Kevin Harvey, a former venture capitalist turned wine entrepreneur, is wagering that here in California, he can produce a great nebbiolo, which has proved difficult anywhere beyond the grape's home territory in northern Italy. Not only that, he is betting he can make world-class carricantes and nerello mascaleses, which may never have been tried outside Sicily.

The Centennial vineyard is also an effort to determine whether, as some people believe, California is full of great wine terroirs that have not yet been discovered.

Harvey's first wine investment, Rhys Vineyards, which produces exquisite pinot noirs, has paid off handsomely in terms of the quality of the wines and their critical reception. But the track record of Italian varieties in California, or anywhere outside Italy, is not great.

Yet Harvey is applying the same tenacity and obsessive attention to detail to this project as he did with Rhys 20 years ago, when he combed the back roads of the Santa Cruz Mountains, looking for rocky slopes that he believed would make exceptional sites for vineyards.

Rhys now has six vineyards in the Santa Cruz area, each different geologically and all hard to farm, along with another in the Anderson Valley of Mendocino County and another in development in northern Mendocino.

Rhys is focused on French varieties. In addition to the pinot noirs, it makes smaller amounts of chardonnay and syrah.

Harvey's Italian venture is entirely different. It has its own name, Aeris, and aside from the grapes grown in Sonoma, it has two vineyards on Mount Etna, where it grows grapes and makes wines in association with Salvo Foti, who has played a crucial role in the revival of traditional Etna viticulture and wine production over the last 25 years.

Harvey has always been devoted to nebbiolo, the great grape primarily associated with Barolo and Barbaresco, but it was his discovery of carricante that sealed the Aeris deal. He was in Italy with his wife 17 years ago, when he stopped in a shop full of wines he had never tried before. One was a 2001 Pietra Marina from Benanti, an Etna Bianco Superiore made by Foti entirely of carricante.

"We drank it and it was revelatory," Harvey said. "It was like grand cru Burgundy meets grand cru Alsace riesling. That really captivated me."

By 2016, Foti and Harvey had a 15-acre carricante vineyard in Milo on the east face of Etna, prime carricante territory.

Foti, whom Harvey called "the high priest of indigenous grapes," was also searching Etna for old vineyards of nerello mascalese at high elevation. When he found largely abandoned century-old vines at 2,000 to 3,000 feet on the north face of Etna near the town of Montelaguardia, Harvey stepped in. Aeris had another Etna vineyard.

"Nerello was the third leg of the stool that became Aeris," he said.

Plans for California were unfolding simultaneously. Harvey was particularly excited about carricante, which he saw as a possible response to the climate change.

"In a warm climate it makes a great wine of low alcohol and high acidity," he said. "It's a great fit for California."

It would seem that the distance between nebbiolo's home in northern Italy and carricante's in Sicily might preclude finding a single site that would accommodate both, along with nerello mascalese. But Harvey's research suggested otherwise.

"People think nebbiolo is a cool-climate grape, but it's actually warm," he said. The reason nebbiolo was so often unsuccessful outside northern Italy, he said, was that it was planted in the wrong climate.

He determined that the best place in California would be in the coastal mountain ranges at a high enough altitude that the daytime heat would be moderated and the cold air at night would be pushed to the valley floors. After finding this site on Centennial Mountain, a 900-acre former sheep ranch with grassy terrain that could be used for vines amid groves of white oaks and manzanitas, he put in weather stations to verify the climate over three years. It checked out as he had hoped.

The soil here is largely rocky schist rather than the limestone marl of the Langhe or the volcanic soils of Etna.

With two members of his Rhys team who are also working at Aeris — Jeff Brinkman, the winemaker, and Javier Tapia, the vineyard manager who demonstrates his commitment through his license tag "Nerello" — Harvey in 2013 began the process of putting in roughly 10 acres of nebbiolo; 4.5 acres each of carricante and nerello mascalese; 2 of nerello cappuccio, with which mascalese is often blended on Etna; as well as 2 acres of zinfandel; 1 of primitivo, zinfandel's Pugliese sibling; and an acre of barbera.

Why zinfandel? Paul Draper, the longtime head of Ridge Vineyards, recommended it, Harvey said.

In a quirk of American labeling laws, nerello cappuccio must be called "carignan," even though a genetic link between the two grapes has not been firmly established.

Aeris' first California wines were made in 2017. I tasted the 2018s last month. Aeris is issuing two whites: Centennial Mountain Bianco and Centennial Mountain Carricante.

The bianco is a basic carricante bottling that is savory, earthy and saline. It is soft and deliciously easy to drink. The carricante is a step up, denser, more concentrated and tightly wound though no heavier. It is tangy and saline, with floral and mineral flavors that may take several years to open up.

It was superb and fascinating to compare to the 2018 Etna Bianco Superiore, which likewise was dense and concentrated but had more pronounced aromas of salt and rocks.

The 2018 Centennial Nerello Mascalase was structured and earthy, with explosive aromas of red fruits and herbs. It will need a few years to unwind, as will the 2018 Centennial Nebbiolo, which was dense, highly floral and profoundly tannic.

The 2018 Centennial Bricco Rosso, a blend of 50% nebbiolo, 15% each nerello mascalese, nerello cappuccio and primitivo and 5% barbera, was far more accessible, though still tannic, with complex aromas of red fruits and herbs.

SERIOUSLY SIMPLE

Japanese eggplant dish is a family favorite

By Diane Rossen Worthington
Tribune Content Agency


This eggplant dish highlights ginger, chile and garlic flavors. **DREAMSTIME**

I like cooking with Japanese eggplants. They have a thick skin and sponge-like texture that allows for glazes and sauces to be easily absorbed. I also like the shape and ease of slicing them.

I have found that Japanese eggplants seem to be slightly sweeter than their larger cousin. They are delicious grilled, roasted or sauteed.

Also, their flavor is fairly bland, so you can cook them with different flavorings, from tahini to tomatoes.

This Asian dish is a favorite in our family when we crave ginger, chile and garlic flavors. As long as you have all your ingredients prepped, this is easy to put together.

This ginger-chile eggplant stir-fry is a universal complement to Asian-style main courses. Make sure to taste it at the end of cooking and adjust if you'd like your dish sweeter or spicier. If you like it even spicier, you can add more chile paste.

I like to serve it with noodles with peanut sauce and a stir-fry of colorful Asian vegetables for vegetarians. It also pairs nicely with salmon or sea bass.

STIR-FRIED EGGPLANT IN SPICY ASIAN SAUCE

Makes: 4 servings
3 tablespoons peanut oil
4 Japanese eggplants, unpeeled and cut into 1-inch thick slices
3 medium cloves garlic, minced
2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh ginger
4 scallions, finely chopped
1 tablespoon chile paste with garlic
2 tablespoons sherry
2 tablespoons soy sauce
½ teaspoon sugar
2 teaspoons cider vinegar
½ cup chicken stock
Salt to taste
2 teaspoons dark sesame oil

1. In a wok over high heat add the peanut oil, swirling around to coat the sides. When the oil is hot but not smoking, add the eggplant and toss every 15 to 20 seconds for 2 to 3 minutes or until lightly browned.
2. Add the garlic, ginger and scallions, and toss for another minute. Add the chile paste, sherry, soy sauce, sugar, cider vinegar and chicken stock, and cook, tossing every 15 to 20 seconds for 3 minutes.
3. Reduce the heat, cover and simmer for 10 to 12 minutes or until the eggplant is tender. Remove the cover and add salt to taste. Drizzle with the sesame oil and serve immediately.

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Braised lamb shanks with peppers simmer mostly unattended. **DAVID MALOSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

What my mother's cooking taught me

Her 'care in the kitchen shaped my approach as a food writer and home cook'

By Florence Fabricant
The New York Times

Whenever I slice and sauté onions, I think of my mother.

No, she did not make me cry, but her meticulous handling of a mundane kitchen task left a lasting impression, one that informs my own cooking. Slice the onions and monitor their progress in the skillet so the result is a bronzed, sweetly fragrant tangle. Do not rush: Keep the heat on medium and stir frequently to guarantee no bitter burned edges.

Born in 1908, my mother, Annette Newman Gertner, was a Jewish American housewife from Manhattan. Before I was born, she was a secretary at an advertising agency, Lord & Thomas, where she had to sign letters using a fake man's name. (They did not want a woman's on the correspondence.) But cooking was in her DNA, and now in mine.

She learned from her mother, Fanny Newman, who was born in Russia and died when my mother was 19 — and for whom I was named. But my mother's cooking went well beyond the chopped liver, stuffed cabbage, kasha varnishkes and chicken soup of her Eastern European background, both in attention to detail and imagination.

Innovation was her style. She did not throw hamburgers on our backyard grill. Rather, she seared slices of filet mignon for sandwiches and grilled whole beef tenderloins for parties.

She loved dining out with my father, Lee Gertner, and would sometimes incorporate what she tasted in her own cooking, like broiling lamb chops medium-rare instead of the leaden well-done of the 1950s.

While I cannot recall her consulting many written recipes, preferring to follow her own instincts, I enjoyed cooking at her side, and saw how she tweaked flavor with a spritz of lemon or another pinch of salt.

Now that my children and grandchildren are accomplished cooks, I regret that they were never able to share the kitchen with their Nana. They would have experienced the meaning of patience and generosity.

There was nothing special in her arsenal: Her kitchen, which was not kosher, was equipped with everyday cast-iron and Farberware cookware, a well-worn wooden chopping bowl and mezzaluna, a glass double boiler, an enameled oval blue-and-white-speckled roaster and a pressure cooker. But she insisted on having a Chambers range — top of the line in the 1940s.

She loved to entertain and did so frequently, with the dinnerware, linens, serving pieces, Limoges fish set and crystal stemware necessary, in her view, to accommodate and, yes, impress her guests. Even for family meals in the kitchen, a bottle of milk or maple syrup would be decanted into a pitcher, a habit that I carry forward, with wine the singular exception.

When shopping for food, she was demanding. The butcher and fishmonger at the local market catered to her, as did an Italian greengrocer, setting aside her favorite Simpson lettuces. I recall expeditions from Westchester County to Macy's Manhattan food shops for croissants, the ones my parents preferred, and wine and imported cheeses.

Her love of individuality came out in other ways. Unlike many women of the time, she was surprisingly adept around an automobile engine, and she loved to fish, traveling with my father to Florida for bonefish and to Maine for landlocked salmon. I did not inherit the fishing gene but, growing up, I welcomed being part of a household that valued good food both at the stove and in restaurants: That appreciation generated and shaped my decadeslong career writing about food, and to some extent, my very being.

So did her social life. My parents were partygoers, attending benefit dinners and regularly visiting supper clubs like the Blue Angel. And they were devoted to the restaurant scene, frequenting the lavish Forum of the Twelve Caesars, a French seafood bistro called L'Armorique and the more elaborate Chateaubriand, now just memories.

They also liked Pietro's and Pen and Pencil for steaks, and, before theater, the Algonquin, all still in business today. My father loved going to Dominick's on Arthur Avenue in the Bronx; my mother did not, so I was corralled. But my mother prepared his favorite steak "Italian-style," rubbed with olive oil and garlic, and strewn with parsley.

I remember those steaks. I can make her peerless chopped liver and chicken soup by heart. Her braised lamb shanks with bell peppers and onions, a study in succulence, were her version of a dish from the Balkan-Armenian, a restaurant on East 27th Street. Her potato noodles were a family recipe. She also loved to roast whole racks of veal, slathered with a mosaic of onions and oranges run through in a small iron meat grinder clamped to the kitchen counter. I've streamlined the recipe using a food processor and downscaled it with chicken.

My mother would have welcomed the food processor. But chicken instead of veal? Doubtful.



Chicken roasted with oranges and onions is an adaptation of a dish made originally with racks of veal. **DAVID MALOSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

CHICKEN WITH ORANGE AND ONION

In this recipe, adapted from my mother, Annette Gertner, an orange, pith, skin and all, provides a bittersweet counterpoint for tangy onion to season and dress a whole, broken-down chicken that's browned on one side, then baked. Worcestershire sauce binds the flavors with a good amount of umami, while some bits of orange and onion caramelize in the oven and enrich the pan sauce.

Makes: 4 servings
Total time: 1 hour
1 orange
3 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
1 medium-large yellow onion, coarsely chopped
1 teaspoon ground ginger
¼ teaspoon kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper
1 (3 ½- to 4-pound) frying chicken, cut in 10 pieces
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon unsalted butter
½ cup dry white wine

1. Heat oven to 375 degrees. Cut orange in half and juice it. You should have at least ⅔ cup of juice. Add Worcestershire sauce. Set aside. Cut orange peel, with pith, into 1-inch pieces. Place orange peel and onion in food processor and pulse to chop fairly fine, or chop both together by hand. Spread half this mixture in a baking dish large enough to hold the chicken snugly in a single layer (a 9-by-13-inch pan should suffice).

2. Using a whisk or fork, mix ginger, ¼ teaspoon salt and pepper (to taste) in a shallow bowl. Season the chicken with it, then dredge chicken pieces in flour to coat only the skin side. Heat butter in a large, heavy skillet on medium high. Brown chicken on skin side and transfer, skin side up, to the baking dish on the bed of orange and onion.

3. Pour orange juice, Worcestershire sauce and wine into skillet. Cook on medium for 2 to 3 minutes, scraping up any residue in the skillet. Stir in reserved minced chopped orange peel and onion. Pour over and around chicken. Bake for about 45 minutes, basting a few times, until dark meat juices run clear when pierced with a knife. Serve directly from the baking dish or transfer to a platter and serve.



Annette Newman Gertner on a bonefish excursion near Boca Grande, Florida, in 1960. **FLORENCE FABRICANT**

BRAISED LAMB SHANKS WITH PEPPERS

Hearty and aromatic, this braised lamb dish, adapted from my mother, Annette Gertner, takes inspiration from the Middle East by way of Eastern Europe. It simmers mostly unattended and even benefits from being made earlier in the day — or even a day or two in advance — and reheated. The four shanks yield four copious portions. (The recipe will serve six if every guest does not insist on having a bone.) Orzo alongside will sop up the sauce.

Makes: 4 to 6 servings
Total time: 3 hours
4 small-to-medium lamb shanks (3 to 3 ½ pounds), excess fat and silver skin removed
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
Salt and ground black pepper
1 large green bell pepper, cored, ribs removed, cut in ½-inch strips
1 large red bell pepper, cored, ribs removed, cut in ½-inch strips
4 small yellow onions (about 1 pound), peeled and quartered vertically
3 large garlic cloves, smashed
1 teaspoon dill seed, crushed in a mortar
1 teaspoon paprika, preferably Hungarian
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 cup chicken stock
½ cup dry red wine
3 tablespoons tomato paste
1 tablespoon dried oregano
3 tablespoons lemon juice
2 tablespoons minced fresh dill

1. Pat dry lamb shanks. In a heavy casserole or Dutch oven that will hold all the shanks, heat oil on medium-high. Add lamb shanks and brown on all sides, about 10 minutes. Remove to a platter. Season with salt and pepper. Reduce heat to medium-low.

2. Add bell peppers and onions to the pan. Sauté, stirring, until the vegetables wilt and just begin to color, 5 to 6 minutes. Add garlic, dill seed, paprika and cinnamon. Stir. Add stock and wine. Bring to a simmer. Stir in tomato paste and oregano. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in lemon juice. Return lamb shanks to the pot along with any juices on the platter. Cover them with a piece of parchment or waxed paper, cover pot with lid, reduce heat to very low and cook about 2 hours, basting the shanks occasionally and turning them at least once until the meat is very tender when pierced with a knife.

3. Remove shanks from the pot. Increase heat to medium and reduce sauce by about a third, about 10 minutes. Taste and season with salt and pepper as needed. Return shanks to the pot, baste and reheat. Serve directly from the casserole or transfer to a serving dish. Strew with fresh dill before serving.

POTATO NOODLES

Here's a grandmother's recipe related to gnocchi but from a grandmother who was not Italian. In this recipe from my mother, Annette Gertner, a potato-based dough is formed into small noodle shapes, which are tossed with breadcrumbs and onions, Austrian-style. Another way to serve the noodles is to gently fold them with warm sour cream and chives.

Makes: 4 side-dish servings
Total time: 1 hour
1 large baking potato, such as russet, peeled
1 large egg, lightly beaten
2 teaspoons salt, plus more for pot
⅔ to ¾ cup all-purpose flour, plus more for rolling
1 large onion, thinly sliced and separated into rings
3 tablespoons unsalted butter
½ cup dry plain breadcrumbs
1 teaspoon minced fresh dill

1. Cut potato in quarters, place in a pot with water to cover, bring to a boil over high heat and cook until tender, about 15 minutes. Drain and mash until smooth in a large bowl. Allow it to cool to lukewarm. Stir in the egg and half the salt. Mix in enough flour to make a soft dough that's not sticky. Spread more flour on a board and transfer dough to the board. Knead lightly for a minute or two. Roll or pat into a rectangle that's about ¼-inch thick.

2. Mix onion with remaining teaspoon salt and spread in a large, heavy skillet. Cover and place over low heat to steam until tender but not brown, 5 to 8 minutes. Set aside.

3. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Slice dough into ¼-inch wide strips and cut into 1-inch-long pieces. Drop into boiling water, reduce heat to medium, and cook until noodles rise to the surface, 1 to 3 minutes. Drain and toss with 1 tablespoon of the butter. Keep covered.

4. Add remaining butter to the skillet with the onions. Cook on medium until the butter melts, toss, add breadcrumbs and dill and cook for a few minutes until ingredients are well-combined and the breadcrumbs are fragrant. Add noodles, reheat and gently fold everything together and serve.

In Honor of Nurses Everywhere



The Twentieth Annual Hartford Regional

Nightingale Awards 2002 2022 20 Years of Celebrating Nursing Excellence





Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing



Thank You to These Healthcare Heroes

Hosted by Hartford HealthCare at Home

Dear Friends,

As a once in a lifetime acknowledgment, we are honored to come together to celebrate the winners of the Florence Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing. Following another year within a pandemic, we recognize those who showed a remarkable amount of courage and resiliency. The winners shined through as a beacon of hope during the most unprecedented time. We are saddened that we cannot gather in-person again, we thank you for joining us to honor each nurse across Connecticut with a virtual Nightingale celebration.

Stemming from various specialties and healthcare settings and each has made a profound impact on the lives of those they have cared for, an impact that lasts a lifetime.



As you learn more about the nursing heroes in the Nightingale special edition, please take a moment to reflect upon the outstanding care and compassion the nurses have shown patients and families throughout the past year and the years to come.

We would like to thank our sponsors for their ongoing dedication to the Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing. This year's presenting sponsor is Hartford Hospital and our official sponsors are: Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Eastern Connecticut Health Network, St. Francis Trinity Health of New England, The Hospital of Central Connecticut, MidState Medical Center and UConn Health.

Congratulations to all of the Nightingale Award winners.

Sincerely,

Laura G St John RN MSN

Laurie St. John, MSN, RN
Vice President
Hartford HealthCare at Home

ON THE COVER

Front cover, clockwise from upper left:

Shelly Levesque, HHCAH
Comalita Elliott, CCMC
Yaroslav Ivakhnyuk, HFSC
Ryan Massicotte, UConn

2022 Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing Sponsors

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The Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing: One of Connecticut's Most Prestigious Nursing Honors

May 9th marks the 20th-year anniversary of the Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing Gala in Greater Hartford.

The annual event honors nurses for going above and beyond the call of duty in an array of clinical and educational environments. The goals of the program are to encourage retention, inspire future nurses, focus public attention and recognize the breadth and scope of nursing practice at the local level.

The Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut in New Haven created the Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing as a gala program to "celebrate and elevate" the nursing profession. The Nightingale vision was quickly embraced by the health care community as a unique opportunity to inspire future nurses and focus public attention on our local nurses during National Nurses' Week.

The program has grown to include galas in the Hartford and Eastern Connecticut regions, as well as the original program in New Haven.

The Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing program is open and inclusive of all health care settings including hospitals, home health care, health centers, schools, health departments, long-term care, nursing schools, agencies and medical practices.

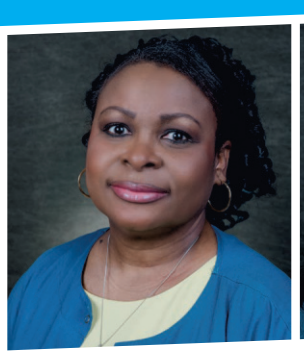
Since its inception, the Nightingale program has honored more than 5,000 nurses statewide, each one remarkable and exemplary of the nursing mission.

The Nightingale Awards pay tribute to Florence Nightingale, her dedication and service to her patients. She devoted her life to nursing and improving the quality of life of those she treated. Nightingale's lasting contribution has been her role in founding the modern nursing profession by setting an example of compassion, commitment to patient care and thoughtful hospital administration.

Connecticut Children's Congratulates its 2022 Nightingale Nursing Award Winners!



BASIA ADAMS
DNP, APRN, PPCNP-BC



COMALITA ELLIOTT
RN, BSN, CDCES



FELICIA TAM
BA, ASN, RN

Connecticut Children's

MAGNET RECOGNIZED AMERICAN NURSES CREDENTIALING CENTER

Congratulations, Jennifer Ackerman!



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Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing

Hartford Hospital



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Colleen Salvador
BSN, RN



Lisa Bisaillon
BSN, RN



Shenika Carroll
MSN, RN



Ashley Costa
MSN, RN



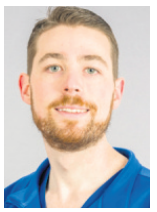
Nina Damiata
BSN, RN



Rhonda Dean
BS, RN



Nathan Dorian
BSN, RN



Ryan Gannon
BSN, RN



Marlene Graham-Folkes
BSN, RN



Lisa Marie Laporte
RN



Angela Luba
BSN, RN



Lynn O'Bara
APRN



Taulant Proko
RN



Wendy Savarese
MSN, RN



Cheryl Tafas
MS, RN



Kathleen Vees
MSN, RN

Charlotte Hungerford Hospital



Kimberly Shreders
BSN, RN



Michelle Zarrella
RN

Hartford HealthCare Medical Group



Dawn Garcia
APRN



Jane Sweeney
RN

St. Vincent's Medical Center



Elizabeth Attar
ADN, RN



Patricia Dennis
MSN, RN



Jessica Giordano
BSN, RN



Kristyn Koripsky
MSN, RN



Tracy Ann McCabe
RN



Candice Wright
BSN, RN

Natchaug Hospital



Michelle Bousquet
RN

They move us with their compassionate care, impress us with their knowledge and amaze us with their professionalism. They are caregivers, problem-solvers and respected partners. **They are the nurses of Hartford HealthCare**. Especially at this time of pandemic, we salute each and every one, and we're proud to honor those chosen by their peers as 2022 winners of the prestigious Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing.

Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing

MidState Medical Center



Brenda Berrey
RN, CMSRN



Christine Bonvisuto-Lynch
RN



Karen Ellison
BSN, RN



Mikael Espanol
BSN, RN

Windham Hospital



Kimberly Kearns
RN



Amy Kollbeck
RN



Hannah Phelps
RN

The Hospital of Central Connecticut



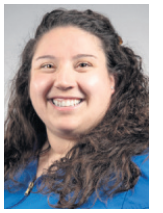
Mae G Archacki
RN



Meghan Brennan
BSN, RN



Wendy Napolitano
MSN, RN



Jacqueline Seales
MSN, RN

Tallwood Urology & Kidney Institute



Courtney Kelley
LPN

Rushford



Kim Whipple
MSN, RN

Backus Hospital



Crystal Brown
RN



Era Mae Martinez
RN



Aleck Mikulka
RN



Melanie Nagode
RN



Regina Rich
MSN, RN



Amanda Santiago
RN

Hartford HealthCare



Elizabeth Begley
MS, RN



Rachael McClelland
MSN, RN

Hartford HealthCare Senior Services



Audra Armour
RN



Crislin Leen Mathew
RN



Pamela Pinto
RN

Hartford HealthCare at Home



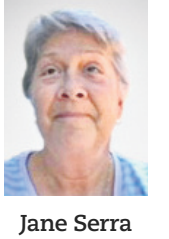
Gina Brown
RN



Shelly Levesque
LPN



Christine Massiello
ASN



Jane Serra
RN



From the Very Start

Shelly Levesque, HHC at Home

By Leaja Johnson

Shelly Levesque knows what it's like to experience patient care first hand as a cancer survivor and recently undergoing open-heart surgery. Ever since she was a child she found herself comforting other and has always had passion for helping people.

Levesque became acquainted with the nursing profession as a child; she watched her mother's cancer journey after a total Laryngectomy and her own journey as she experienced such amazing nurses. Since then, she could envision nursing as her life-long career. Levesque will never forget the attention and care her nurse, Kelly, who treated her during her cancer journey, provided her with. Kelly would call Levesque every day, with or without treatment, just to connect.

Throughout her 16 years of nursing, each day holds a memory that she keeps dear to her heart. The most impactful would be when she



engages with a former patient or family member in the real world and they describe the impact she had on them. For her, it is such a rewarding feeling.

"I wake up every day trying to be the best version of myself. My journey can attribute to the way I care for and listen to people. Nursing is far more than a career, nursing is a lifestyle," said Levesque.

In 2012, Shelly started working at Hartford HealthCare at Home and has enjoyed each patient interaction. Today she is a Telemonitor Nurse Coordinator and her role is multi-faceted. She reviews referrals, educates patients about programs, schedules telemonitor installs and acts as a resource and support for staff and clinicians. Levesque may be the first contact the patient has with the telemonitor team and continues to maintain close involvement with each patient in the program. Patients are equipped to complete their daily vitals, while receiving education on managing their disease. The program has had great success in decreasing re-hospitalization and improving patient outcomes.

Levesque has been instrumental in the success and growth of the program, by recognizing the challenges of each patient as the medical and nursing fields change. The patients are diverse, her interactions are personalized and the innovations are becoming much more advanced. A nurse is forever evolving but one must always bring it back to the basics of patient care focused. "To give oneself daily is a beautiful gift," said Levesque.

"Shelly is a true professional and has been instrumental in our Hartford HealthCare at Home Telehealth success," said Laurie St. John, Vice President of Hartford HealthCare at Home. "She has been recognized by our hospital partners as being vital to the success of the Hartford HealthCare at Home Intensive Care Program."

Levesque is a compassionate, hardworking advocate for patients, families and colleagues. "There are so many amazing people throughout the company and to be chosen is a humbling moment," said Levesque.



Helping Patients and Colleagues Feel Their Best

Nathan Dorian, HHC Hartford Hospital



By Elissa Bass

Nathan Dorian is always working to improve himself, and he brings that drive to both his nursing colleagues and his patients.

The 30-year-old works as a Certified Neuroscience RN (CNRN) in Hartford Hospital's neurology/neurotrauma unit. He has been a nurse for almost four years, but has been working in healthcare since college, when he served as a volunteer first responder while an undergraduate at University of Rhode Island.

He is a Clinical Leader for his team, and he feels a lot of responsibility in that role to be constantly helping his colleagues improve. Every night at the end of this shift, he sends a detailed email to the team, summarizing each patient and providing other information as well, ranging from details on a new hospital initiative, a regulatory issue, or even an area where he sees a need for improvement.

"In a positive way, he encourages the team to work on that area," notes his manager, Staci Beamon. "Based on his example, this has become a standard work for the unit leaders."

As for himself, in addition to his RN, his BSN, and his CNRN, Dorian is attending UConn to become a Nurse Practitioner. He hopes to graduate in 2023. "Having worked in hospitals, now I want to move on and be at the forefront of preventing people from being hospitalized," he said.

Dorian's work for both himself and others has garnered him both respect and recognition. This year he was named one of Hartford Hospital's Nightingales. The annual Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing program celebrates outstanding nurses and elevates the nursing profession. He will be recognized along with nurses from across Hartford HealthCare on May 12.

Patients in the neurology unit are typically pretty sick, and many are recovering either from a stroke or a traumatic brain injury. Dorian said it is important to think of each as a person, not just a patient.

"They each have their own story and their own life outside the hospital," he said. "I try to look at every angle and figure out what I can do to make them feel more comfortable. They are not just their ailment."

His colleagues relate a specific instance of a patient, a younger man who had suffered a stroke. Scheduled for a complicated surgery, the man had told Nathan he was worried about how his two young children would cope. Working with colleagues, Dorian arranged a trip for the family to the Hartford Hospital helipad to see the two LifeStar emergency helicopters.

"His kids were really scared," Dorian said. "So I thought, let's give them a once-in-a-lifetime experience. It was a magical moment."

Dorian mentors and precepts new nurses as well, embedding his philosophy in the next generation of caregivers.

"Nate being my preceptor has only made me strive to be the best nurse I can be," said Emma Raboin, RN. "His compassion for patient care and meticulous critical thinking has motivated me daily to reach that level of nursing care. Every day he is looking out for the best interest of the staff and making sure they feel supported, especially during these hard times."

About the Nightingale Logo

The Nightingale logo is inspired by Nightingale birds, a species known for its exquisite song. The species is more often heard than seen – we can appreciate their contribution but rarely have the opportunity to meet them. The Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing are an opportunity for wonderful nurses to be seen and celebrated for the myriad contributions they make to all our lives.

To view photos of the Nightingale gala, visit: Find us on

www.hartfordhealthcareathome.org and click the Facebook logo at the bottom of any page.

Goodwin University

Congratulations

to Kerryann Deshaies, MSN, RN
Nursing Lab Coordinator

Goodwin University honors Kerryann and all of our outstanding nursing faculty and students for the work they do to heal and inspire.



2022 Nightingale Award Recipient

www.goodwin.edu/nursingdegrees

Bristol Health Congratulates Our
2022 Nightingale Nurses
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Tom Riordan
MSN, RN, CEN

Marla Campbell
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Terri-Anne Berthiaume, LPN
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Rushickah Brooks, MSN, APRN, NP-C, BC-ADM
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Shenika Carroll, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Honora Dalmagas, MSN, RN
Hospital for Special Care



Basia Adams, RN, APRN, DNP
Connecticut Children's Medical Center



Bethann Baer, RN
Eastern Connecticut Health Network



Lisa Bisaillon, BSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Crystal Brown, RN
Hartford HealthCare Backus Hospital



Michele Clemens, RN
iCare Health Network



Nina Damiata, BSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Trystan Allen, BSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Susan Baim, LPN
Gentiva: Kindred at Home



Christine Bonvisuto-Lynch, RN
Hartford HealthCare MidState Medical Center



Gina Brown, RN
Hartford HealthCare at Home



Ashley Costa, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Rhonda Dean, BS, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Mae Archacki, RN
Hartford HealthCare The Hospital of Central Connecticut



Elizabeth Begley, MS, RN
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Michelle Bousquet, RN
Hartford HealthCare Natchaug Hospital



Julie Burke, BSN, RN
UCONN Health



Elaine Cournean,MSN, APRN-BS, ACHPN
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Hartford HealthCare St. Vincent's Medical Center



Audra Armour, RN
Hartford HealthCare Senior Services - Southington Care Center



Brenda Berrey, RN, CMSRN
Hartford HealthCare MidState Medical Center



Meghan Brennan, BSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare The Hospital of Central Connecticut



Marla Campbell, BSN, RN
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Rachel Crosby, RN, MSN, CIC
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Kerryann Deshaies, MSN, BSN, RN
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Hartford HealthCare MidState Medical Center



Dawn Garcia, APRN
Hartford HealthCare Medical Group



Denise Hyland, BSN, RN
Trinity Health: St. Francis Hospital



Barbara Kapustka, RN
Eastern Connecticut Health Network



Kristyn Koripsky, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare St. Vincent's Medical Center



Nathan Dorian, BSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Leonela Espinal, BSN, RN
Community Health Center, Inc.



Jessica Giordano, BSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare St. Vincent's Medical Center



Nicole Ibrus, RN
Trinity Health: St Mary's Hospital



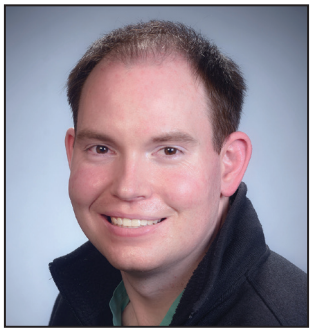
Anya Karavayev, BS, RN
Trinity Health: St. Francis Hospital



Lisa Marie Laporte, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



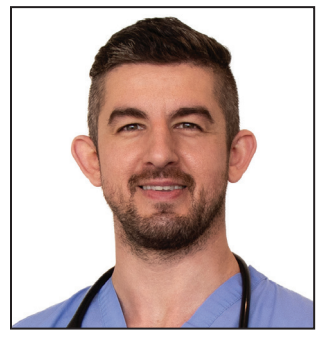
Teresa Dubois, RN
Trinity Health: Johnson Memorial Hospital



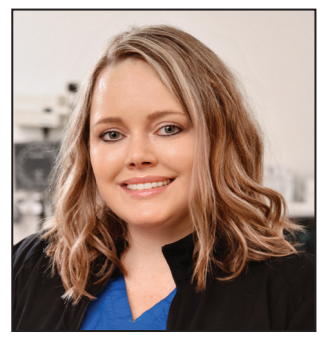
Jesse Flannery, BSN, CCRN
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Hospital for Special Care



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Elzbieta Lee, BSN, RN, IBCLC
Trinity Health: St. Francis Hospital



Comalita Elliott, BSN, RN, CDCES
Connecticut Children's Medical Center



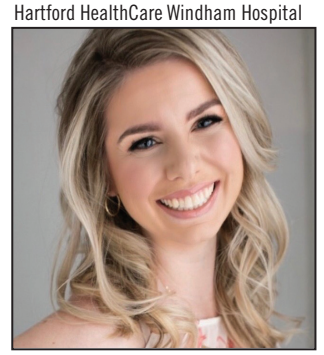
Dhalia Frances, LPN
iCare Health Network: Westside Care Center



Amy Gwiazdowski, LPN
Root Center for Advanced Recovery



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Duncaster



Courtney Kelley, LPN
Hartford HealthCare Tallwood Urology & Kidney Institute



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Dawn Lepore, MSN, RN
Hospital for Special Care

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Shelly Levesque, LPN
Hartford HealthCare at Home



Christine Massiello, ASN
Hartford HealthCare at Home



Wendy Napolitano, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare The Hospital of Central Connecticut



Cheryl Paddock, BNS, RN
Farmington Valley VNA, Inc



Pamela Pinto, RN
Hartford HealthCare Senior Services - Jerome Home



Mary Ruane, RN
Trinity Health: St. Francis Hospital



Deneisha Lindsay, MSN, CPNP-PC
Community Health Services



Tracy Ann McCabe, RN
Hartford HealthCare St. Vincent's Medical Center



Kristen Nettleton, RN
Sharon Hospital



Michele Pallas, MSN, RN, CCRN
Central Connecticut State University



Taulant Proko, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Colleen Salvador, BSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Angela Luba, BSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Rachael McClelland, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare System Support Office



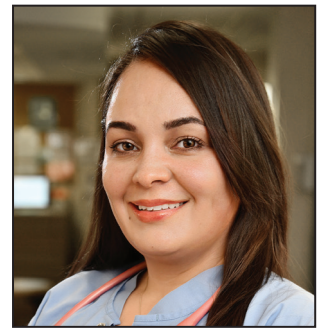
Jillian Newton, BSN, RN
Trinity Health: St. Francis Hospital



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University of Saint Joseph



Amanda Santiago, RN
Hartford HealthCare Backus Hospital



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Hartford HealthCare Backus Hospital



Aleck Mikulka, RN
Hartford HealthCare Backus Hospital



Lynn O'Bara, APRN
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Cynthia L. Peterson, RN, RNC-NIC
Trinity Health: St. Francis Hospital



Regina Rich, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Backus Hospital



Wendy Savarese, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



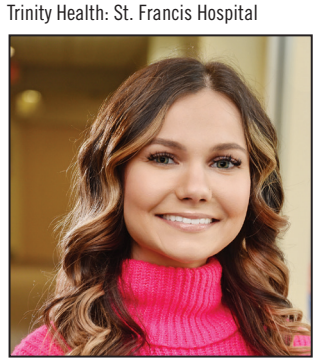
Ryan Massicotte, BSN, RN
UCONN Health



Melanie Nagode, RN
Hartford HealthCare Backus Hospital



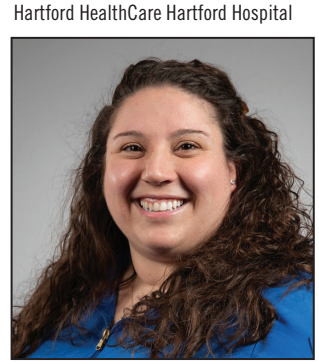
Margaret Osiecki, RN
Trinity Health: St. Francis Hospital



Hannah Phelps, RN
Hartford HealthCare Windham Hospital

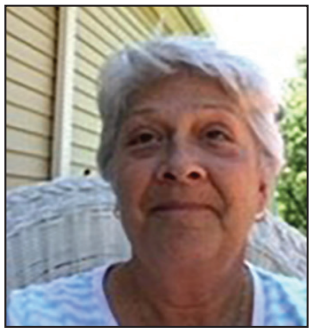


Tom Riordan, MSN, RN, CEN
Bristol Health



Jacqueline Seales, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare The Hospital of Central Connecticut

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Hartford HealthCare at Home



Jane Sweeney, RN
Hartford HealthCare Medical Group



Wilfreda Tilley, MSN, RN, PCCN, CN3
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Kathleen Vees, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Hartford Hospital



Candice Wright, RN, BSN
Hartford HealthCare St. Vincent's Medical Center



Kimberly Shreders, BSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Charlotte Hungerford Hospital



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Jenifer Titmas, MSN, RN



Kim Whipple, MSN, RN
Hartford HealthCare Rushford



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Sally Silva, MSN, RN, NPD-BC
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Felicia Tam, BS, ASN
Connecticut Children's Medical Center



Lisa Smolkis, BSN, RN, CPAN
Bristol Health



Robin Stasko, BSN, RN, CHPN
AccentCare Hospice & Palliative Care of CT

I attribute my

Success

to this:

I never gave or took any excuse.

Florence Nightingale

Diabetes care for the whole child

Comalita Elliott, Connecticut Children's Medical Center



If you have diabetes, the simple task of eating can sometimes seem insurmountable, especially if you are a child.

"Everyone else can eat and drink and not have to think twice about it," said Comalita Elliott, a certified diabetes care and education specialist who has been a nurse at Connecticut Children's Hospital for 10 years. "Children with diabetes have to check their blood sugar first; they have to calculate their dose or wear a pump; they have to give themselves a shot. It's a whole 10 minutes before they can even eat something, and by that time, everyone has already moved on."

Elliott won a Nightingale Award this year for her dedication to improving the lives of these children, not just with regard to their disease, but as a whole.

"You have to love kids to understand kids," she said. "You have to develop a relationship. I don't want to be just the nurse. You find out about what they like and dislike, what they enjoy doing. You talk to them about themselves, not diabetes. There is a person behind diabetes, you know? So, I find out about that person."

These conversations aren't just one-offs. Elliott sees her patients for years, even decades, and she nurtures ongoing relationships with them throughout their lives.

"I had one girl, when I met her, she was about 12 years old, and I was seeing her very often," Elliott said. "She was studying for the SATs, and we were talking about it, and I asked her what she wanted to do, and she wanted to be a nurse, and I was very impressed. I thought she'd be sick of healthcare. But she graduated high school and went on to be a nurse. And she only got one wrong on her SAT. So she could have been anything she wanted and she chose to be a nurse. Because she felt that the care that she got was nurse driven."

Elliott works in the Diabetes Care Coordination Clinic, treating children who need more structure and guidance in their lives. She sees each patient up to once a month, along with a doctor and social worker. Sometimes, her relationship with them is one of the most stable they have in their lives.

"I have a lot of patients who are challenging: it means the psychosocial dynamic is hard. They have big problems at home, and diabetes is not on their minds at all. I help them with diabetes and make it so that they can stay healthy. It's not easy."

But Elliott doesn't focus solely on the children alone. She says the relationship they have with their parent or caregiver is ultimately a key to their success, and she tried to guide them both.

"To me they are as one, the parents and the child. They come as one," she said. "As a parent, you should always be there. Not just in the room but directly supervising. So, if the child is older, and is capable of doing all the tasks, it doesn't mean you should stay away. The kids who are the most successful have direct supervision."

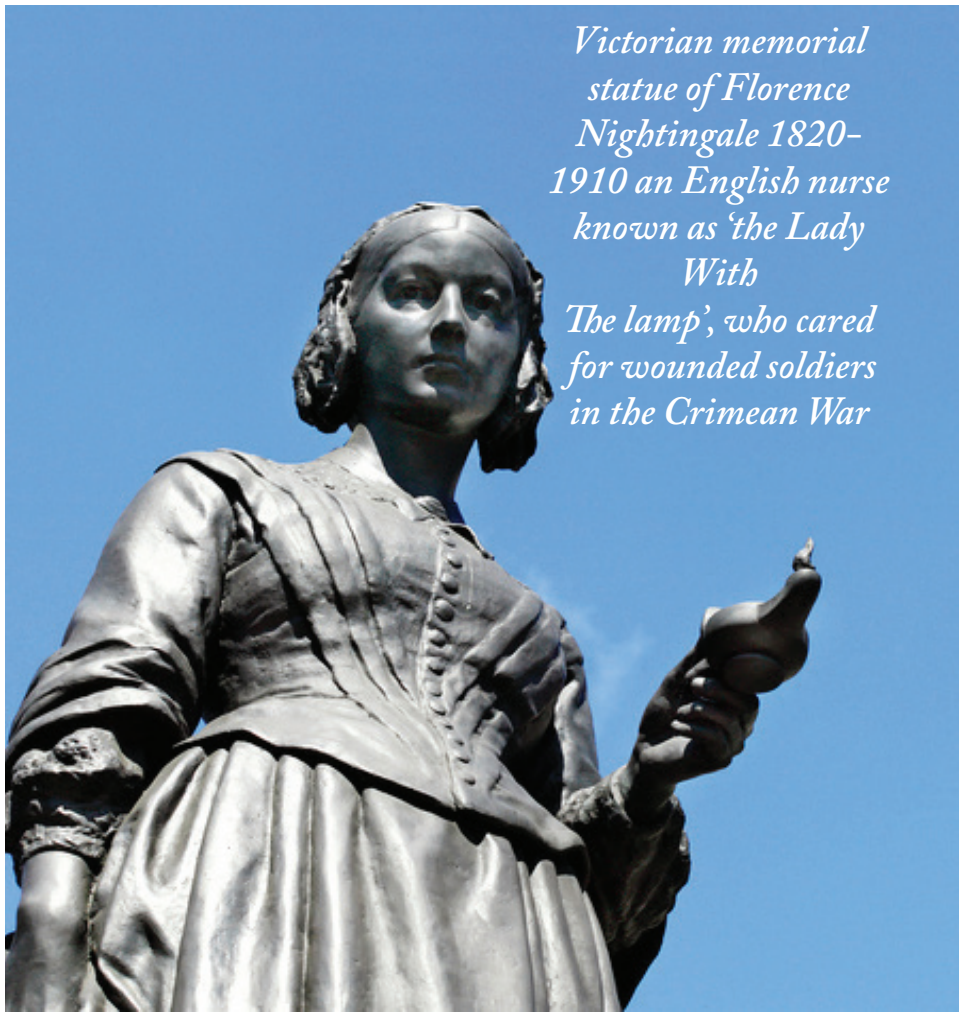
While Elliott is grateful for the award this year, she says the work she does isn't for awards.

"I do things because I love them. I've been a nurse for 31 years, and I do all the things I love. You never work a day in your life if you love what you do. I love to make people feel better and allow them to live their lives."

Her dream is to open a supportive housing unit for children with diabetes in need someday. As for now, she plans on continuing on in both her nursing and educator roles, even taking her knowledge to the national level: she's just been asked to give a presentation to the National Black Nurses Association about how to become a certified diabetes care and education specialist.

Most important to her, however, are the kids and their lives—lives she hopes don't become overshadowed by diabetes.

"I tell them, 'don't change your life for diabetes. Let diabetes fit into your life,'" she said. "If you play football, we're going to make diabetes fit into your football. If you eat dinner at 4 p.m., we're not going to change it to 6 p.m. You don't make your life fit into diabetes. It's the other way around."



Victorian memorial statue of Florence Nightingale 1820-1910 an English nurse known as 'the Lady With The lamp', who cared for wounded soldiers in the Crimean War



Portrait of Florence Nightingale

Congratulations

Leonela Espinal, RN



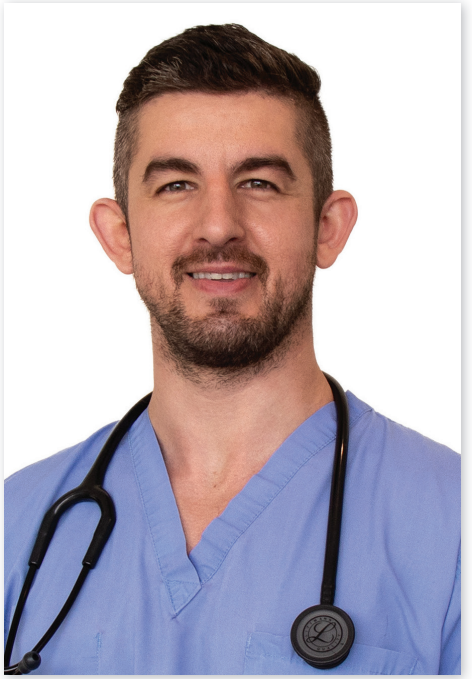
2022 Nightingale Award Recipient for Excellence in Nursing

Community Health Center, Inc.



Purpose. Passion. Paying it Forward.

Yaroslav Ivakhnyuk, Hospital for Special Care



Yaroslav, Yaro to most, has cared for patients on a large complex respiratory care unit at Hospital for Special Care (HFSC) for about 10 years. He joined the hospital after graduation from the University of Connecticut School of Nursing and there he found both his purpose and his passion. Caring for others comes naturally to Yaro, and the patients he supports at HFSC require highly specialized clinical attention. "I knew I wanted to make an impact on people's lives when I started nursing school," said Yaro. "The first time I visited HFSC I knew this was the place I could truly make a difference for patients and their families."

Yaro worked as a floor nurse for six years. He credits his preceptor and other mentors for helping him develop the unique competencies needed to care for patients with tracheostomies, dependent on ventilators, experiencing advanced neuromuscular disorders, or living with extensive mobility limitations. "My mentors helped me learn to care for my patients' medical needs and also how to improve their quality of life," said Yaro.

"Yaro was eager to learn, he questioned every process to be sure he understood every step," said Angel Preece, RN, who served as Yaro's preceptor in 2012. "He was eager to achieve competency in all of the specialized procedures medically-complex patients need and to improve processes where he could," she said.

Yaro developed extensive skills in maintaining patients' skin health and in infection prevention and control, both extremely vital skills on a 38-bed unit where every patient has unique needs and vulnerabilities. His hard work, and unflagging energy, have earned the appreciation of his patients and their families through the years. "That's the most motivating reward, when a patient, especially a patient who has limited verbal communication, finds a way to express their thanks," he said. "That's what keeps me passionate about nursing every day."

Yaro is one of the few who is certified in endoscopic procedures and serves as a coordinator for inpatient Intrathecal Baclofen Pump management. He is the go-to person for many hands-on practices including managing gastric and jejunostomy tubes. Yaro also serves on committees where he helps improve practices and procedures.

Yaro's promotion to unit clinical coordinator gave him an opportunity to unite his purpose and his passion by creating opportunities to contribute to the clinical and quality performance of the entire unit. "I get to see the big picture now, identify and follow trends, and collaborate with other clinicians to improve outcomes," said Yaro. "I enjoy working with our respiratory therapy team, the nurses and patient care staff on the floor, our social workers, advanced practitioners, physicians and specialist, to ensure that every patient's care is optimal."

He also now mentors' others and helps nursing students and early careerists expand their clinical and patient interaction competencies. "I like to pay it forward. There are so many opportunities to do and learn different things in nursing. People helped me learn and every new skill has made me a better nurse," he said. "I enjoy doing that with others." His team say he is a generous and supportive mentor who fosters critical thinking and continuous learning.

Yaro came to the United States with his parents when he was 10 years old. "I'm an only child," said Yaro. "They wanted to give me every opportunity to have a good life." Yaro learned to face challenges with optimism, integrity and dedication, at an early age and carried these traits with him into his nursing career. "I didn't speak English when I first came here. My first school in America had many Polish students, which was closer to my own language, so I learned to speak Polish first and that helped me make the transition to English."

When asked how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted his nursing practice, Yaro looks back to the skills he learned as a child. "I think resiliency is tied to your ability to handle change," he said. "Moving to a new country, learning a new language and new culture, really helped me learn how to handle change." His capacity to remain calm in any storm helped others, from colleagues to patient family members separated from their loved ones during the worst pandemic surges, maintain perspective. "We can get through things together if we can roll with each new change rather than simply react to it."

Yaro's motivation and energy extend to every part of his life. He is building a real estate portfolio and just embarked on a new adventure with his fiancé: raising chickens at their Connecticut home. He remains a devoted son, and keeps in touch with his extended family and friends in Ukraine. He's a devoted futbol fan, but is focusing more of his free time these days on planning his wedding with Heidi Harris, one of HFSC's registered dietitians.

We Treat You Like Family

Rushickah Brooks, Community Health Services



It could be said that nurses are the heart of a hospital. Within the pulse that reverberates through the walls on each unit on every floor, you'll find nurses. Mary Ruane, RN, a nurse on the Surgical Cardiology Unit at Saint Francis Hospital, is part of that pulse.

Mary has been a part of the Surgical Cardiology Unit for two and a half years, joining the Saint Francis family following two semesters of clinical rotations at the hospital. She previously worked in the dental field and was "looking for something more." She began taking pre-requisite courses while still working in the dental office, and realized the more she learned about nursing, the more she knew it was where she belonged.

"My grandparents went through hospice care," Mary explained. "The care and compassion demonstrated by the nurses and doctors helped ease their worries and those of our family. I always come back to that and why it's important for me to provide that same level of care and compassion to others."

In her time at Saint Francis, Mary has embraced the roles of charge nurse and preceptor to new graduate nurses on the unit. From the beginning of her career, Mary stepped up and sought out opportunities to be a positive influence on her colleagues by taking on leadership roles. Nursing peers she has mentored along the way often express gratitude for Mary's selfless caring nature, strong work ethic, and steadfast support.

"For me personally, I was really encouraged by the support I had from my instructors and peers," said Mary. "This job can be very stressful, so helping to provide that encouragement to others is important to me."

Along with her leadership skills, Mary's bedside manner is exemplary. She consistently goes above and beyond to provide her patients with not only the best medical care, but the emotional support they need. The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way clinicians provide care, but Mary did not let restrictions and challenges hinder the care she provides.

"When anyone is in the hospital, they are in such a vulnerable state. It's gratifying to know that I can help them feel safe and more like themselves again by putting their worries at ease, talking to their family, and making sure both the patient and their family are feeling good about the care they are receiving," Mary explained.

In one instance, Mary was charged with caring for a young mother who had an extended stay due to post-operative complications. It was just before Christmas and because of COVID-19 restrictions, the patient had not been able to see her young children in person for quite some time. Mary consulted with leadership and formulated a plan for the patient to safely visit with her family over the holidays. She escorted the patient to a safe, designated visiting area in the hospital where she was joyfully reunited with her children.

"I could see a big change in her," said Mary. "It lifted her spirits. I couldn't imagine being away from my own child for that long. It was my personal mission to make sure that happened."

Mary's strength in leadership has been evident throughout the pandemic, as she continuously stepped up through the fear, anxiety, anger, and loss to provide care to her patients as well as guidance and support to her colleagues.

After experiencing an incredible personal loss due to COVID-19, Mary said that her desire and passion to help her patients was reinvigorated. Her calm presence is recognized daily, despite what challenges that day may bring.

Mary was surprised to learn that she had won a Nightingale Award. "Honestly I was lost for words," she said. "I did not imagine that so early in my career, or ever, that this would be a possibility for me. I think I speak for a lot of nurses when I say that the work we do is just what we do every day!"

Keeping the pulse of the hospital going is what nurses do every day, and Mary Ruane is an invaluable piece of keeping the pulse at Saint Francis Hospital strong.

Sometimes, Healing Comes With Comfort Food

Mikael Espanol, HHC MidState Medical Center



By Elissa Bass

There's medicine and technology to care for patients, but Mikael Espanol understands that sometimes it just comes down to comfort food.

Espanol, a registered nurse at Midstate Medical Center on a medical telemetry unit, had a patient recovering from a complex spine surgery that was complicated by a postoperative stroke. She had a poor appetite, and was not eating. The patient told her doctor that food tasted like cardboard, and she craved lumpia, a traditional Filipino dish similar to an egg roll.

Her surgeon, Dr. Shirvinda A. Wijesekera, mentioned the situation to Espanol, who was her nurse on this night. "I was hoping he could coax a bit of Ensure into her."

Rounding the next night, Dr. Wijesekera found his patient in her room feasting on lumpia. Espanol had gone home after his shift, told his wife the story, and she had cooked up a big batch of both lumpia and other Filipino dishes to temt the patient's palate. Espanol wasn't assigned to this patient on this night, but he brought her the food anyway.

"Let me express my profound gratitude to Mikael Espanol and his wife," Wijesekera said. "I am so very proud of his caring and dedication to a patient that wasn't even his charge this night. Mikael has earned my respect and admiration. He deserves accolades to reward his true spirit as a healthcare hero. His quiet efforts make a difference."

Espanol's efforts are noticed by his colleagues at Midstate. This year he was named one of the hospital's Nightingales. The annual Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing program celebrates outstanding nurses and elevates the nursing profession. He will be recognized along with nurses from across Hartford HealthCare on May 12.

Espanol, whose parents emigrated here from the Philippines in the 1990s, is in his fifth year of nursing. Now 26, he worked in nursing homes prior to coming to Midstate. He earned his Bachelor's of Nursing degree from the Lorma Colleges School of Nursing in the Philippines. He and his wife of four years live in Middletown.

Both his parents are nurses, so the dinner table at their Meriden home was full of medical talk and stories. "When I was a kid they would bring me with them to the nursing home where they worked," he recalled. "I saw the interaction between my parents and their patients, how my parents would make them feel comfortable, would make them happy."

Espanol's younger sister is a newly minted graduate of nursing school, and his wife is also a nurse. They met at Lorma College.

The story of the patient who wanted the lumpia speaks to the core of Espanol's nursing philosophy, and harkens back to his childhood memories of watching his parents care for their patients.

"She was coming from the orthopedic unit, and I was reading up on her, and I saw on her chart she wasn't eating. Then her surgeon mentioned the lumpia to me, and I know it can be really hard to find. But my wife knows how to make it. So she got all the ingredients and made them and brought them to the hospital the next night. That patient had a buffet! Even though she wasn't my patient, I really wanted to see it through.

"For me, if there is something that I can do for a patient that makes their stay better, I will do it," he continued. "It's hard being in the hospital. So I make it the best for them that it can be."

Thank You!

Thank you to our Nightingales and all the nurses around the world for all you do. Day in and day out, your work, mentorship and empathy transcends our halls and homes with how valuable you are to our communities.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your continuous commitment to care and serve.











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Tonight the Nightingale Awards Gala will proudly recognize and award $1,000 scholarships to:

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"Mary Ruane, R.N. is an Integral Part of the Pulse at Saint Francis Hospital"

Mary Ruane, Trinity, St Francis



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The Love of Life, Family, and Being a Nurse

Ryan Massicotte, UConn

By Jennifer Walker,
Health Information Officer and Deputy Spokesperson, UConn Health.

Adopted as an infant from a rural town in Colombia, South America Ryan Massicotte, RN, has taken advantage of every opportunity presented to him. Had he not been adopted, he's not sure what his life would look like today, or if he would even have had a basic education.

"I've been given this life for a reason and for me to not take full advantage of it would be a disservice," says Massicotte, a UConn John Dempsey Hospital nurse.

Massicotte graduated as President of the 75th graduating class of the University of Connecticut School of Nursing in 2017. As the third generation of nurses in his family and the first to earn a bachelor's degree, he is now on his way to obtaining a master's degree in nursing education in 2023, also from UConn. He participates in many activities at UConn Health, and now represents the alumni of UConn's nursing school as President of the alumni board.

Massicotte was only a few years into his career when the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in the United States. He had a personal stake in the success of COVID-19 patients both at UConn Health and at home: Massicotte's mother fell ill with a serious case of the disease. On her 54th birthday, she was intubated.

"It was obvious that this weighed heavily on him, as one might expect, but he did not falter in his commitment to his patients," says Kaitlyn Standish, Nurse Aid at UConn Health.



Every day he wasn't with his mother at the hospital or her rehabilitation facility, he was at work, providing the same care to COVID-19 patients that he hoped was being provided to his own family. His mother was released from the rehabilitation facility on the 25th anniversary of his adoption, and is now doing well.

"From the beginning, Ryan worked through the entire pandemic and has been a staple on the unit, providing support to our Med 3 floor team and our patients and their families," says Magdalena Pierce, MSN, RN, Nurse Manager, Medicine at UConn Health.

His favorite part of the job is connecting with patients, forming relationships, and relating to their hopes and concerns as he cares for them.

"Theoretically the nurse is there with the patient the most, and I like connecting on a personal level to get to know them more than just a diagnosis. I want to know their hopes and fears, what keeps them up at night," says Massicotte. "This was heightened during the pandemic as patients were not allowed to have in-person visitors and many nurses sat by the bedside and held their patients' hands."

Through the care he provides his patients, and the support he offers to his fellow nurses, his goal is to lead and inspire both current and future nurses. He is dedicated to the success of UConn Health and the UConn School of Nursing and has been entrusted also with teaching nursing students, new graduates, and interns as a clinical instructor. Massicotte would like to become a clinical nurse specialist, with the ultimate goal of teaching at his alma mater.

It is a common sight to see Ryan in the halls of the hospital, even late after his shift or on his days off. He makes a distinct effort to support his fellow nurses and the patients they serve.

A continuous learner, Massicotte loves to teach and can often be spotted with a medical textbook in hand. Several students have benefited from his desire to teach, not only to become proficient in day-to-day tasks but also to explore the "why" behind every medical intervention. Massicotte's goal is to provide the best care to the patients at UConn Health and ensures that his fellow nurses share that goal.

Massicotte met his fiancée while in nursing school and they worked together on the same floor during the pandemic. "She was my rock," he says. When not working, studying, or supporting his nursing colleagues, he likes to play soccer and video games.

Massicotte is proud to be the first bedside nurse in the two years since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic to receive the Nightingale award at UConn Health.

Massicotte's legacy is just beginning. Wherever his path leads him, it is clear that he will conduct himself proudly as a UConn nurse who has already made UConn Health proud.

Nursing is an art:

and if it is to be made an art, it requires as exclusive a devotion, as hard a preparation, as any painter's or sculptor's work: for what is the having to do with dead canvas or cold marble, compared with having to do with the living body, the temple of God's spirit? It is one of the Fine Arts: I had almost said the finest of the Fine Arts.

- Florence Nightingale



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 NIGHTINGALE AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR EXCELLENCE IN NURSING.



Julie Burke
BSN, RN



Elaine Cournean
MSN, APRN-BC, ACHPN



Rachel Crosby
MSN, RN, CIC



Ryan Massicotte
RN, BSN



Kara Parker
MSN, RN



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Trinity Health Of New England extends its sincere admiration and gratitude to this year's Nightingale honorees, who are an inspiring testimony of clinical excellence and compassionate caring.

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